

T H E
DUTCH FLORIST:
O R,
True METHOD of managing all SORTS
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F L O W E R S
W I T H
B U L B O U S R O O T S.

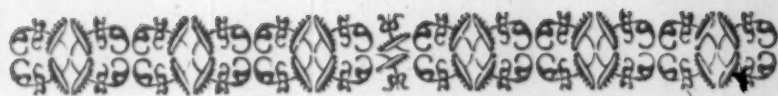
B Y
NICHOLAS VAN KAMPEN and SON, Florists,
at HARLEM, in HOLLAND.

Translated from the ORIGINAL, which is signed
by the AUTHORS to prevent Imposition.

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T H E
P R E F A C E.

By the TRANSLATOR.

I*T is hoped the following Trans-*
lation will be an acceptable pre-
sent to the ENGLISH FLORISTS;
as it teaches the whole art of raising,
cultivating, and treating all kinds
of

P R E F A C E.

*of BULBOUS-ROOTED FLOWERS,
according to the method practised by
the most experienced Florists in Hol-
land and Flanders, whose industry
and skill in this respect have been
such, that they have for above a
century enjoyed the reputation of be-
ing alone possessed of some Secret in
this Business unknown to the rest of
the world, and by that means secu-
red to themselves a very gainful mo-
nopoly. In this little Treatise the
whole*

P R E F A C E.

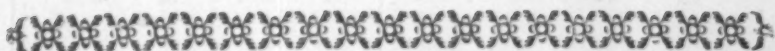
whole Secret is laid open ; and there wants nothing more than the same assiduity to equal, at least, the Dutch and Flemish in these most lovely productions of nature ; and our Countrymen that love and delight in Gardening have it now in their power, by pursuing this certain method, to reap the same profit, as well as to enjoy the in-felt satisfaction of seeing their parterres adorned with native beauties, propagated by their

own

P R E F A C E.

*own pains, without squandering a-
way English money upon Foreign-
ers.*

T H E



T H E
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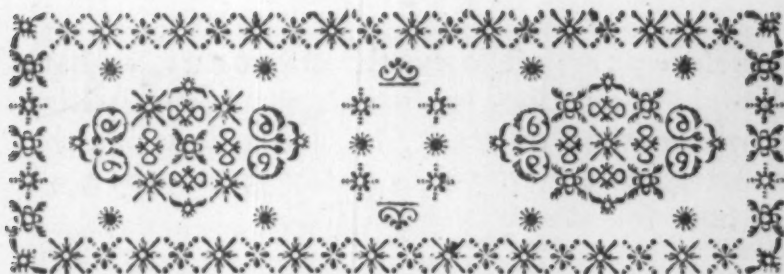
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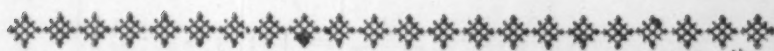
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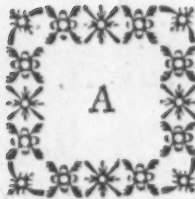


OF THE
HYACINTH.



CHAPTER I.

Of the different kinds of HYACINTHS, and their culture.

 **A** MONG all the ornaments of a flower-garden, the Hyacinth merits the first place. It commands the admiration of every beholder, who cannot without pleasure observe the sweetness and vivacity of its various colours, the arrangement and duplicity of the petals, and the elegant disposition of the florets. But the more charming this flower is, the greater nicety is required in the management and cultivation, to guard against the numberless perils to which this delicate beauty is exposed: A defect in the soil, a bad exposure, the manner of placing the bulb in the earth, and many other causes may destroy it, by affecting it with the rot; or at least rob the flower of its beauty, by making it degenerate. To preserve
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therefore an object so worthy of our care, we have thought it our duty to furnish our friends with a proper method of managing and cultivating this delicate flower, which by many years experience we have found easy and infallible.

BUT our design is not to treat of the nature of all the species of Hyacinths; the Botanists have saved us that trouble, and to them we refer the curious; we shall only set down the different names they have given them, viz.

Hyacinthus Belgicus; or Dutch Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus botryoides; Grape Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus coralloides; Coral Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus flore Boraginis; Borage-flower'd Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus flore oblongo sexpartito; English Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus muscari; Musk Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus plumosus; Feather'd Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus stellatus; Star Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus stellatus Africanus; seu *Lilio-hyacinthus*; African Star Hyacinth, or Lily-Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus tuberosus Indicus; Indian tuberose Hyacinth.

Hyacinthus orientalis; Oriental Hyacinth.

WE fix upon this last species to accomplish the end we have propos'd to ourselves, and without entering upon those unnecessary and tedious disquisitions that have divided Botanists about its original, we shall leave every one at liberty to judge as they please; only observing, that if these do not
owe

owe their birth to Holland, the most part of those, that are met with in other parts of the world, have been, and are still brought from thence; where they have either been raised from seed, by the extraordinary pains, diligence, and expence of the Dutch florists; or else the soil of that country is more peculiarly adapted by nature to give the Hyacinth that enchanting beauty with which it strikes every eye. For it is with flowers as with plants, the soil in which one grows and thrives, is poison to another.

Now since it is of the greatest consequence to be well acquainted with the nature of earth, because the culture and thriving of seeds and roots equally depend upon its goodness and due preparation, we will set down the principal sorts of soil, and point out their different qualities.

1. *Stony Earth*, or that which is *full of Chalk*, whose juices being extremely active and thin, are excellent for the vine, as is found by experience; but they are so easily evaporated by any extraordinary heat of the sun, that it becomes unfit for any other kind of plants.

2. *Strong, or Loamy Earth*, so called, because, being very clammy and tough, it is very difficult to work: It is proper for wheat and almost all kind of plants, provided it be not too clayey; for then it forms a kind of hard paste, which prevents the vegetation of seeds, by its too great compactness.

3. *Fenny, or Marshy Earth*, such as is found in most parts of Holland, being of a bituminous and sulphureous quality, occasioned by the frequent inund-

inundations that have so often covered the Low-Countries; it is agreeable to a great many plants and flowers.

4. *Sandy Earth*, which, of itself and unmixed, is poor and barren; it is to this that Holland is principally indebted for its preservation, as it would soon be laid under water, but for the sand banks which providence seems to have placed upon its coasts, to restrain the violence of the sea. Sand is of different colours, as red, yellow, white, bluish, or grey.

THE two first sorts of earth are unfit for the culture of Hyacinths; but the third, that is, the sulphureous earth, is more agreeable to them. At least it is not uncommon to meet with florists about Amsterdam, that cultivate their Hyacinths in a blackish and light soil.

THE fourth, or sandy earth, is what we consider as the base of the culture of Hyacinths; so it be neither yellow, nor red, nor dug out of deep pits, because in that case it is too cold. It ought to be of a bluish grey, or blackish red, not sharp, but rather handling smooth, a little greasy, and taking a pearl colour when dry: The water dropping from it must neither be sulphureous, nor salt, but sweet, and of a delicate taste; in a word, such earth as we see about Harlem, particularly towards the West, or the sea-banks.

YET this is not sufficient: a soil possessed of all these qualities, still requires our pains to meliorate and improve it. Neither do we equally approve of all
me-

meliorations; we condemn amongst others such as are made with the mud or slime of ponds, ditches, or deep pits; horse, sheep, or hog's dung, and the filth of common sewers; and we are positive that these things are not only improper, but even prejudicial. The only method of enriching sandy earth, according to our experience, is to make use of cow-dung, rotted leaves of trees, and tanner's bark; but the bark ought not to be taken fresh out of the pits, but laid up for two years at least, that it may be well rotted, and consumed to one half.

FLORISTS are divided about the choice of fresh or rotten dung; the decision of this question properly belongs to the Naturalists. It is certain that fresh dung is richer than rotten dung; but the business is to know which of the two produces the better effect in culture. In our opinion dung is only the substance, to which the sulphureous vapours adhere, which fertilise the earth, and supply that vegetative force, which it would not have of itself, or with water alone; and this induces us to believe, that fresh dung, being fatter and less spent, is more susceptible of these sorts of vapours, and consequently more fit for the production of most plants; but it is too fat for the Hyacinth, which not being able to bear that great abundance of sulphureous particles, would be soon suffocated by them.

OUR method of mixing the compost for Hyacinths is as follows;

Two sixth parts of grey sand.

Two sixths of well rotted cow dung.

One.

One sixth of tanner's bark, quite rotted and reduced to earth.

One sixth of tree leaves, also well rotted.

ALL these materials must be thrown into a heap, not more than three feet thick, so that the rays of the sun may have power to penetrate through it, and warm it to the bottom; for which purpose the heap must be laid in a high and open place exposed to the south. Once a month it ought to be carefully stirred, and the bottom thrown to the top, that all parts of it may participate of the benign influence of the sun and elements; this is so essential, that if the heap be not thus exposed, so far from being advantageous, it would become very detrimental to the flowers; of which the following example affords a sufficient proof.

ONE of our friends, who was extremely fond of fine Hyacinths, took very great pains and the nicest precautions about ordering his heap of compost, according to the most exact rule; but he failed in this one point of exposure; either for fear of spoiling the oeconomy of his garden, or because the situation of the garden itself was such, that he could not find room for his heap, but in a place that had a north aspect, and where the sun never came. And what was the consequence? the compost, far from possessing the qualities which might be expected from it, answered no other end, but the utter ruin of all his Hyacinths, to the very great grief of our friend, who sacrificed the finest flowers in the world to the trifling consideration of laying a heap of compost, where it might perhaps have been offensive to the eye. So necessary it is to use all imaginable precautions in this respect.

BUT

BUT this is not enough; the heap ought also to be well wrought and reduced to a very fine mixture, without roughness; it must be often stirred, for that is the way to meliorate it; and this work must be continued for twelve months before the compost be used; taking care not to sift it, though that be the practise of some, because in that case the earth is apt to run into lumps, which would be of dangerous consequence.

THE compost thus prepared, must be carried to the designed place about a month before the roots are planted; for if it be put in later, the earth might settle while the roots are in it, which would lay them too deep.

TO conclude, what we have to say about the preparation of the earth, we will add a very secret rule, and as easy in practise, as it is necessary.

THOUGH all the abovementioned precautions be taken, yet there is no preventing the rays of the sun from exhaling the sulphureous or noxious vapours in the natural soil through the prepared earth, which would do great damage to the Hyacinths, as we have often found by experience. We have therefore bestowed much study to find out some way to prevent this inconvenience; and have at last, by often repeated experiments, discovered a proper and infallible remedy for this mischief, which we here with pleasure communicate to our readers.

AFTER a place has been pitched on, for planting the flowers, the natural earth must be dug out to the depth of three feet, and the bottom covered with

with a stratum of cow's dung, half a foot thick; which must be beaten and trod down, till it be very firm and compact, like a hard crust; that by its closeness it may stop the vapours from rising and penetrating the compost; then the hole is to be filled up with compost six inches above the level of the garden.

WE have made a long dissertation upon a very simple subject; but this we thought absolutely necessary, as the earth is the most essential thing in the culture of flowers, upon which the success of all our labour depends, and except that be good, we take pains to no purpose.

LET us now proceed to the second article, in which we shall describe the method of planting the roots.

THEY may be planted in a parterre, or a terras, or in any other place the florist chuses; the most curious plant them in raised beds, the proportion of which may be regulated by the number of roots. Thus if we have roots enow to fill a bed of forty-five feet long, and four broad, they may be set in five rows of sixty roots each (which is about nine inches asunder); observing in other cases the same proportion, according to the number of roots we are provided with. But care ought to be taken to make the breadth of the bed sloping, so that it may be two feet and a half behind, and one before; that it be placed in an elevated situation, because low ground is not agreeable to Hyacinths; in other respects it is indifferent whether they be planted in a south or east exposure.

HAV-

HAVING taken the precautions abovementioned, with regard to digging the cavity of the bed and lining it with dung; the preparation of the compost; the time betwixt the removal of it, and the planting the roots; we are next to fix upon the most proper season for putting them into the ground, which should be in October, or November; for the Hyacinths would be exposed to several dangerous accidents, in case any other season were chosen: Because the defects of the bulbs cannot be discovered so well before that time; and if they were set in September; the flowers would be much pinched when they began to appear above ground, by the cold of the spring in our Northern climates; and would be too early in the Southern: Neither is December more eligible, because then the roots would have begun to sprout before the bulb was put into the ground, which would hurt its growth:

THE proper season therefore is in October or November, when they ought to be set at the depth of four or five inches: Not more, because in that case, tho' the bulb would indeed grow strong and large, the flower would be poor and small; nor less, because then the bulbs would blow the flowers extremely well for one single year, but then they would produce a great number of offsets, by which the principal roots would be exhausted and spent.

ANOTHER observation is also to be made, that all the sorts do not blow at the same time, some being *early*, and others *late* blowers; if therefore the first be set five or six inches deep, and the

latter four or five, you will then have the pleasure of seeing the flowers blow together more equally.

IN the melancholy season of winter, when nature, despoiled of her force and beauty, seems to be spent and motionless, and our flowers are in a kind of lethargic state, there is no more to be done than to cover the earth to prevent any mischief which frosts might occasion.

IN the warmer climates of Spain, Italy, and France, there is not that necessity for covering the flowers, because the frosts are scarce ever strong enough there to penetrate to the bulbs. But in England and Germany the florists would run a great risk of losing their flowers, if they were not defended from the hard frosts, to which these countries are subject. They ought therefore to cover them with tanners-bark, leaves, or straw, to the depth of three or four inches: Not that the Hyacinth cannot bear a moderate cold, for the bulb is not liable to be hurt even by the frost, but the fibres of the root cannot bear it, and it is therefore necessary to shelter them from it; and none ought to flatter themselves with the hopes of success, if they neglect the means we have prescribed. Those of more Northern countries must regulate themselves according to the nature of their climate.

WHEN the severity of the winter is over, the cover ought to be taken off before the rising plant has penetrated into it; for then the leaves would contract

contract a pale disagreeable yellow colour, which they would not lose all the summer.

IT is however necessary to be observed that the beginning of the spring (especially in climates like that of Holland) is subject to great uncertainty. The months of March and April are infested with night frosts, great winds, hail, &c. against which the florist ought carefully to guard his flowers: And for that purpose those that have set their bulbs in a bed, should make use of sliders or boards during the night, or in great winds, or frost; those that have set them in a terrass, must take care to cover them with mats or reeds, which should rest upon supporters two or three feet from the ground. Florists that have planted them in patches in different places, will have much difficulty to shelter them; but indeed they will blow tolerably well notwithstanding all high winds.

WINTER being past, and settled weather introduced with the delightful season of the spring; the Hyacinth, the queen of flowers and epitome of all their beauties, begins to display its charms. This principal ornament of the spring then expands its florets to afford every one the pleasure of admiring the gayest colours; happy would it be if the winds could be affected with its charms! but these, boisterous by nature and insensible to its beauties, would soon break down the weak succulent stalk labouring under a heavy load of flowers, unless it were properly supported: Florists therefore make this their especial care, some in one way, some in another; but their methods are so different that it would be too tedious to repeat them

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all. The best way, in our opinion, is to make use of streight wires or sticks, two feet long and about the thickness of a goose-quill, the former we prefer as possessing more strength under the same thickness. These are to be stuck in the earth to the depth of four or five inches, as near the plant as possible, without touching the bulb; then the stalk is to be tied to the wire or stick with a small green thread above the lowest bell; but so loosely that the stalk of the flower may have liberty to play in the noose, and the thread may be raised as the plant grows up. If the stalk grows too tall, it may be necessary to apply a second thread nearer the top.

THE Hyacinths are by this method secured from the winds; but there is still another inconvenience to be guarded against. The red Hyacinths cannot bear the force of the sun's rays, which would soon spoil their colour. Therefore the curious florist should use caps or screens, which are only to be employed during the scorching heat of the sun. These screens may be made either of light wood or tin, and painted green; they are to be placed near each of the red flowers, and also the white and blue that blow before the rest, to defend them from the heat of the sun; otherwise the early flowers would be faded before the later were in full blow.

WHEN the flowers are almost in full blow, these screens for the single flowers are to be taken away, and their place supplied with a large umbrella or shade of canvas, in the form of a tent, that may screen the whole bed both from sun and rain.

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This shade should be so contrived, and supported, that the canvas may be raised up in fine mornings and evenings, which is necessary for blowing the late flowers; and let down when the sun begins to be very hot, or in great rains: It should also be disposed in such a manner that you may walk under it to examine, at ease and under cover, the variety of the flowers, and inhale the sweet perfumes shed by them. But that the increase of the bulbs may not be prevented (which would be the consequence of keeping the bed too long covered) the shade must be taken away as soon as the greatest part of the flowers have begun to fade, which will be in about three or four weeks.

WHAT precautions to be taken! will the reader say. 'Tis true; but will not the having our flowers in the highest perfection be a sufficient recompence for the whole year's trouble? And let it not be said that the pleasure of admiring them for three or four weeks is a trifle in comparison of the pains to be taken about them. We are of a contrary opinion; if Hyacinths were always in flower, no body would have any great curiosity to look at them: So true it is that a beauty we see every day makes little impression, and 'tis only the rarity of things that enhances their value; we conclude therefore, to the glory of the Hyacinths, that, as nothing surpasses them in beauty, their short duration serves rather for an incentive to take greater care of them, than to neglect them; and if it should happen that they are not so fine in any one season as was expected, we still enjoy the hope that another year they will better answer our expectations.

AFTER

AFTER the season of flowering is over, the next care to be taken for the benefit of the Hyacinths is the taking up the roots. Florists differ in no point more than this: Some take them up very early, others too late. We shall not enter into a detail of the several methods in practice; and we think it will be sufficient for us to inform the curious what method we use, which after the most exact enquiry we have found to be the most advantageous.

WE take up the roots *as soon as the leaves begin to wither*, that is, when their points begin to turn yellow; because we think they have then come to full perfection. We are not ignorant that those who take them up later will have larger bulbs; but we know that they will also be more liable to diseases, as we shall see in the next chapter. Allowing the time we have assigned, when the points of the leaves turn yellow and dry, to be the most proper for that purpose; we then take them carefully up without wounding or bruising, which may easily happen, as they are at that time full of juices. When we have taken them out of the earth, we break off the stem an inch above the bulbs, which we afterwards cover with earth, in which they are to lie till the gross moisture be dried up by the warmth of the sun. This indeed requires the most perfect exactness and greatest attention. For at this time and on this occasion, the Hyacinth runs the greatest risk, nothing being more apt to destroy them than the *excessive heat of the sun*, and *humidity*: The first *roasts* them like an apple at the fire, the second *penetrates* and *rots* them.

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To avoid therefore these two mischiefs, which require so much the more precaution, as it is a very great difficulty to prevent them, we must begin, as soon as the roots are taken up, by making a *little heap* with the earth in which they grew, which must be about half a foot above the surface of the ground, roundish at the top, and sloping on both sides, to cast off the water; for nothing is more pernicious to the Hyacinth than stagnant water.

THIS little heap being thus prepared, the bulbs are to be laid in it beside each other, before the earth be dry, that was about them when they were taken up; for the first defect arises from this dryness: But you must take care that the bottom of the bulb be placed downwards, so that the top where the stem was broken off, and which is very watery, may be dried by the heat of the sun, otherwise the bulb would rot.

THE bulbs being placed in the manner above-mentioned, they are then to be covered with earth to the depth of one or two inches.

WE particularly advise the florists of Southern climates to cover the earth, in which their bulbs are replanted, with Russian mats or some such thing, when the heat of the sun is most vehement, which will be about six or seven hours a day; that the scorching rays may not roast the bulbs, as has but too often happened.

WE likewise recommend to those that live in Northern countries to guard against the rains to
which

which they are so much subject; which they may easily do by making use of boards or wax'd cloths, with which the *little heap* should be sheltered in bad weather, and which should be removed when it is fair.

NOT but the bulbs are able to bear either moderate heat or a little rain; but the excess of either is equally pernicious, and conveys a deadly poison to the Hyacinth. It is therefore of the last consequence to the lovers of this flower to be very careful to defend it against those mortal enemies; nor can they flatter themselves with success if they neglect the means we have prescribed.

THE bulbs are to remain three weeks in the heap, from which they are to be taken in serene and fair weather, and then laid on a board in the sun for an hour; after which they are to be cleared from the earth and offsets about them; but here great care is to be taken, because the least bruise or wound may make them mould in the summer, and occasion their destruction. The bulb being thus cleaned, the fibrous roots and all dust and dirt must be taken away; and lastly the head cut off to see whether it be sound, (of which we shall speak in the next chapter*;) if it be found so, it is to be laid by in a place where it may be preserved till the time of putting it again into the earth in October. The best place that can be chosen for this purpose, is an airy room, in which they must be laid on a table where the sun can never come, which would be a great detriment to the Hyacinths; and the windows ought to be set open in fair

* See page 29.

fair weather to dry the bulbs, which are still full of moisture.

THIS is the method we pursue in the management of our own flowers, which is founded on long experience purchased with much pains and labour: And this we now publish with no other view but for the service of such as are curious in flowers, to save them a great deal of trouble, and infallibly assure them of success, if they exactly follow the rules we have laid down.

WE should here put an end to this chapter, but we have still another word to add about the treatment of the bulbs that are received from abroad, without giving any directions for packing them, which properly belongs only to those that deal in flowers. As soon as the box comes to hand, the roots are to be taken out, stript of the paper bags, and laid in a well aired place; nor would it be amiss to expose them to the sun for a few days, that they may be better freed from any dust or mouldiness contracted in the carriage: Because, though we take all imaginable care to send them in the best condition, and to dispatch them by the safest and quickest conveyance, it may still happen, through the neglect and carelessness of carriers and masters of ships, that they may suffer damage, either by putting the boxes in damp places, or keeping them too long; and this our most earnest recommendations cannot always prevent.

After having dispatched the first part of our design, we will pass to the second chapter, in which we shall treat of the diseases of the Hyacinth and

the methods of cure; we only beg that the lovers of flowers will continue their indulgence to us, and be pleased to remember, that their own advantage is the sole motive that incites us to this work, and animates us in the progress of it.



CHAP.

After having dispatched the first part of our first, we will pass to the second chapter, in which we shall treat of the diseases of the Physicist and the

CHAP. II.

Of the diseases that Hyacinths are subject to, and the true method of curing them.

THIS hard fate generally attends all worldly things, that the most precious are the most tender and frail; every thing seems to conspire their destruction; and if we are so lucky as to preserve them from ruin for a while, we must purchase the happiness with incessant care: Which made *Pliny* say, "that nature sells us her gifts very dear". But are the difficulties that continually occur, a sufficient reason for us to use no efforts to surmount them? Are we not to pursue the pleasures of life, because the chase will cost us some fatigue? Ought we not rather to reflect that the pleasure we taste in possession springs chiefly from those very obstacles that bar the way to the attainment of it? The case is the same with Hyacinths; the more precautions are necessary in the cultivation of them, the more pleasure they afford us when their beauty in its proper season repays us for all our pains. We appeal to the experience of the curious: What satisfaction do they not feel, when after strictly pursuing the directions we have laid down, they see their labours crowned with the finest flowers in the world? Enjoying then the pleasure of admiring them for three or four weeks, they scarce remember the cares and anxiety they have cost them: On the contrary, animated with more spirit, they briskly start afresh to run the same course; and to make it easier to them, after having shewn the best manner of cultivating Hyacinths, we now present them with the analysis of their

their different diseases, and point out the methods of cure,

WE have before observed that the Hyacinth may be injured from the slightest causes. Nature has indeed shewn her peculiar indulgence to this flower by lavishing on it such rare beauties, yet with an unaccountable inconsistency she seems to raise up numberless enemies against it; so that all the florist's art and care can sometimes hardly save the bulb from being spoiled either totally or in part. It is true that the number of offsets produced yearly may afford him some satisfaction, but after all he cannot help regretting the loss of the principal bulbs.

THE symptoms of most diseases incident to the Hyacinth may be discovered by examining the bulb; some shewing themselves by the stem, others by the bottom or part next the fibres, and others again by the leaves.

THE stem of the bulb indicates the distemper of the plant by various symptoms; some by the colour; others by a yellow point, or a semicircle of a redish or brown yellow, which is therefore called by the Dutch, [*Ringh-ziechte*] Ring-sickness.

To discover the distemper that is indicated by the colour, a little slice must be cut off the stem of the bulb when it is taken up. If the stem is all white, it is a good sign that the bulb is in health and out of all danger; a bluish colour is no bad mark: But if the colour be yellowish inclining to red, you may be sure the root is not very sound. In that case a second slice must be cut off, and if
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the stem be white then, you may entertain hopes of saving the bulb: But if the sickly colour still continue, you must act the surgeon, and repeat the amputation till you come to the white. Then expose the bulb to the sun under a glass for three or four weeks, to dry the wound, after which it may be laid with the rest, and planted in the season.

THE disease indicated by the yellow point, or the redish or brown semicircle, is discovered and cured as the former. But the bulb that wears these marks is to be reckoned in great danger of dying, for which there is no remedy but the knife, by cutting away the part where the fault lies till it be entirely extirpated. If this can be effected, and what remains be of a white colour, your root is saved; but if the circle becomes larger, the farther you cut, the case is desperate, the bulb is good for nothing, and must be thrown away; for the disease is not only incurable, but infectious.

THE Ring-sickness is the worst and most dangerous of all others. It is an infection communicated to the leaves by the pernicious vapours received from the earth by the root. The danger first shews itself in the leaves, from which the corrupted juices sink by degrees into the bulb; and the only means to prevent this mischief in the Hyacinth is to take up the roots as soon as the leaves begin to fade, as we have directed in the last chapter*; for then as the distemper may not yet have reached the bulb, it may be prevented by taking away the leaves: Whereas there is no remedy if the root be taken up too late; because the disease by this delay grows inveterate, and has time to poison

* See Page 14.

for the plant entirely, which must be a convincing argument to florists of the necessity of taking up the roots at the time we have here prescribed.

THE disease that shews itself at the bottom of the bulb is a putrefaction that appears there, which must be discretely taken away with the knife. If the rottenness by this means be removed, so that the place whence it was taken becomes white, we may flatter ourselves with preserving the plant for another year, by putting it with the rest in an airy place, and we may expect a good number of offsets from it; but if after cutting there remain any rottenness, the loss of it is inevitable, and it is good for nothing but to be thrown away.

THERE are two other diseases which may be discovered before the bulb is planted.

THE first appears in summer, whilst the roots are in the house upon the table, when they become clammy and stinking. In that case there is no remedy; they must be thrown away, because their smell is abominable, and the table would be spoiled by their clammy juice. This disease takes its origin from the humidity they contract when they are put again into the earth. To prevent this accident, the directions we have given upon this head are strictly to be followed.*

THE second, which is not incurable when taken in time, is discovered by the skins, which, when the bulb is shrunk without being dry, or is a little bruised, become unsound, or covered with a green mould. This is very dangerous, but easily

* See Page 15, 16.

ily prevented and cured, by taking care to examine the bulbs every month, and wiping off any mouldiness; by taking off all the infected skins, and, after they are thus purified, placing them behind a glass, exposed to the sun, that they may be dried.

THIS monthly review is very necessary; but there is another that is indispensable, which should be made two or three days before the bulbs are planted, in order to separate such as are mortally infected and to clean those that are any way tainted. For to plant an unsound root will only end in the vexation of never seeing it more.

THE disease discovered by the leaves, cannot be known till the spring, when the Hyacinth begins to rise out of the earth. This distemper has its origin at the heart of the bulb, which was impossible to be found out before it was planted, and shews itself by the weakness of the put or shoot; or when the leaves are crumpled or curled in form of a semicircle, and at the top of the arch there appear some rays of a brownish yellow colour, like the rust of iron; or else when the leaves grow unequally, some being an inch or two longer than others. When these symptoms are perceived, the root is to be taken out of the ground, both for the sake of preserving the species, if possible; and also to prevent the infection from spreading among the rest of the flowers in the bed.

WE say for the preservation of the species, because as to the principal root the case is desperate. The most proper method to pursue is this. Having

ving taken up the root, try whether it be soft, for then it is good for nothing but throwing away; but if it hard, it must be cleaned from all dirt and outward corruption; after that make two cuts in the bottom of the bulb in form of a cross, and plant it again directly in another place, with the bottom upwards, that it may be dried by the heat of the sun; and let it be covered with earth to the depth of an inch. By this management the bulb produces a great number of offsets, and seems to rise again from its own ashes, like the Phoenix.

THIS is the only remedy that can be applied on such occasions, and is absolutely necessary, because one distempered root may infect all the rest.

THAT this is true, is confirmed by long experience of our own, and is also allowed by the confession of the curious in flowers: Among whom one of the principal in our country, who by his diligence has raised many new flowers, not long ago informed us, that in a bed of the most valuable and rare flowers he had a plant whose distemper was indicated by the leaves; that he neglected to take the method we have above directed, and the infection was soon conveyed to others; so that when he came to take up the flowers, he found all those in the same row with the sick plant were in the same condition. Which proves that this infection is an epidemical disorder, which must immediately be eradicated by removing the subject attacked by it from among the rest.

SUCH curious florists as have set their bulbs in beds, and for the sake of regularity would have
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nothing appear to be wanting in the rows they have laid out, must provide pots of a foot in height and half a foot diameter, in which they should plant some spare roots of different colours, at the same time the others are set; and these may be kept in a separate part of the garden, to be ready to substitute in the place of any that may be thought proper to be taken up.

ANOTHER thing is also to be observed, which sometimes happens, that certain bulbs cast their stalks, when the Hyacinths begin to blow. Some florists are of opinion that this is also a disease; but this we cannot agree to, because the like has happened to several Hyacinths, though the bulbs were very sound. The remedy according to some is not to set the bulbs before the month of October, because they suppose that this misfortune is owing to the frost, which must have nipped the stalks during the winter. The time they prescribe is exactly the same we have directed above; neither do we altogether reject their hypothesis; but in a matter of so great uncertainty we hope they will excuse us if we are not fully convinced of the truth of what they advance. We know no remedy for this loss of the stalk; but we have this consolation that the bulb is not dead, and it is easy to supply the deficiency and preserve the œconomy of the bed.

THE method we take is this. Amongst the variety of flowers that we have, we chuse one, which we put into a phiol of water, and this phiol we plunge into the earth amongst the leaves in the place where the stalk has failed, which supplies

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the vacancy very well ; and when the flower in the phiol fades (which it will do in three or four days, for want of sufficient nutriment) we supply its place with a new one.

BUT we desire the lovers of flowers to observe, that all we have said about the diseases of the Hyacinth in the spring, and concerning the filling up of vacancies, is only directed to the great virtuosi, who have planted their flowers in a bed. Those that set them in a terras need not be so nice; the dealers themselves only take this method with the bed they have for shew.

WE shall now close this chapter with a recapitulation of the general rules, delivered in the first chapter, for preventing as far as possible the several diseases mentioned in this.

1. **THE** earth must be well prepared ; and we are very sure, that if our directions be observed, no great difficulties will occur afterwards.
2. **THE** earth in which Hyacinths have been planted, should not be made use of again for the same sort of flowers, till four or five years after.
3. To take up the roots when the leaves begin to fade ; we have more than once given the true reason for doing it.
4. To plant the bulbs in an elevated situation, and by no means in a place where water stands
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in winter. When the situation of a garden is low, then a terras should be made, and the bed placed upon it.

5. To cover them well during the winter ; that the frost may not penetrate to the roots.

6. To cover the flowers well, to defend them against high winds and hail.

7. NOT to plant the bulbs under trees ; because the water that drops from them, both in showers and afterwards, is very pernicious, both to Hyacinths and all sorts of flowers.



CHAP.



C H A P. III.

Of the Qualities required in a fine HYACINTH; and the method of raising these flowers by seed.

THE Botanists tell us, that the Hyacinth is only a flower consisting of one single leaf, terminated by several small incisions; so the famous Mr Miller explains himself in his Gardener's Dictionary, where he speaks in these terms:

“THE Hyacinth hath a bulbous root: the leaves are long and narrow: the stalk is upright and naked, the flowers growing on the upper part in a spike; the flowers consist each of one leaf, are naked, tubulose, and cut into six divisions at the brim, which are reflexed; the ovary becomes a roundish fruit with three angles, which is divided into three cells, which are filled with roundish seeds.”

SUCH is the idea that learned Gentleman gives us of the Hyacinth; and which we should adopt with pleasure, and allow it to be very exact, if it were not too general, and extended to the double, as well as single flowers. We grant indeed that the single are such as he describes them, and that they have but one leaf; but we cannot be of the same opinion with respect to the double, since any one that gives himself the trouble to examine one of these flowers, will be convinced that they are filled with a number of smaller leaves, placed in the middle of a large one.

BUT it is not our design to enter into a dispute about

about the composition of the leaves. What we propose is to shew what properties they are that constitute a beautiful Hyacinth, whether it be single or double. Each species has its peculiar beauty, and the true virtuosi will have both sorts. Nay we even affirm that the single are preferable to the double in some respects.

FIRST, because they are more early, and as they blow all at a time, they make a fine appearance, by changing the bed in which they have been set all at once into a flowery field enamelled with the most lively and agreeable colours: but this the double flowers cannot do, because they never blow equally.

SECONDLY, on account of the seed, which they produce in great abundance; whereas the double rarely bear any.

THIRDLY, because they are very proper for blowing in glasses, to have flowers in the winter. For these reasons the single Hyacinths in some degree merit the preference: We come next to their beauty.

Of all the curious things in the world, there is not a single one, whose beauty does not depend on a certain disposition or arrangement of its parts; and consequently it must be so in the Hyacinth. It is true the rules by which people form their judgment of it are not all the same: some being founded on fashion, without any established principles, depend only on the fickleness of fancy; others being

ing fixed and constant, remain always the same; and by these we must judge of the single Hyacinth.

To be accounted beautiful, according to these rules, this flower should in the first place have its stalk strong, upright, and well proportioned; that is, neither too long nor too short; because when too long, as it is generally weak, it could not sustain the weight of the flowers; and if it were too short, the flowers would be hid among the leaves, which would be a very great defect: The stem should also be covered with florets in a pyramidal form.

SECONDLY, these florets ought to be very numerous, and fixed to the stem by short pedicles; they should also be large, thick, and well curved; longer at the base of the spike than above; the better to represent a pyramid, they ought all to stand horizontally, and not hang down, which would be a great imperfection; their colour should be bright, clean, transparent, and not confused; and it is also a perfection in the flower if it be of some peculiar colour, as yellow, scarlet, or blackish blue: This rarity will make it more esteemed, and give it on many occasions a degree of preeminence above others.

IT also contributes to the perfection of the single Hyacinth that it doth not blow too early, or too late. For if it blow too early, it will be very good for the winter, but then it will be faded before the others are in flower; and if it be a late blower, it will not be in flower till the others begin to go off, which would be a great fault.

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SUCH are the properties required in a single Hyacinth to constitute it a beauty; and these have raised it to so high a degree of reputation, that for some time all those with double flowers were despised, and in disdain called *great cabbages* that could not open: But to this season of contempt succeeded a determined taste in favour of the double flowers; the florist was overjoyed at the appearance of large heads among the Hyacinths he had sown; nay the matter was carried to such a height that 50 or 100 gilders have been paid for a root: But this kind of madness, which was very like the business of stock-jobbing that caused so much mischief in Europe, is happily much abated.

YET the double flowers are at this time still in request, but we are more pleased with their *beauty*, than their *doubleness*; and consequently the pleasure we feel at the sight of a large bell or floret, is only founded on the expectation of having a fine flower; and this is often disappointed, for it generally happens, that scarce one flower equal in beauty to those we have already, is to be found among a great number of new double flowers.

THE principal properties of the double Hyacinths, are almost the same as those of the single ones; but they surpass the latter in beauty on account of several properties that are peculiar to them. The following are such as are required in a fine double Hyacinth.

THE stem should be strong enough to preserve an erect position under all the weight of its flowers; for a plant that hangs its head is little valued.

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The bells should be ten in number at least, and very large; for a lesser number will not form a bunch of a proper size: There are some that bear twenty or thirty bells, but then they are small. The flowers being placed all round the stem adds much to the beauty of the plant, though some very fine Hyacinths are defective in this respect; and it will be still more complete the nearer it approaches to the form of a cone. The florets should be large, well filled, bell shaped, and their brims well expanded. The pedicles by which they are annexed to the main stalk should be well proportioned. It often happens that the bells hang down, and do not stand horizontally; but a Hyacinth with this defect is not to be rejected on this account, as it is impossible for such slender pedicles to sustain the weight of the bells fixed to them without bending; the larger the flowers are the more they bow downwards, and there is scarcely any large flower exempt from it; we are not therefore to pass the same judgment on the double as the single Hyacinth; for this defect is very allowable in the former, which would be unpardonable in the latter.

THERE are two more properties required in a Hyacinth: The first, that it blow at the same time with other double flowers. Too early blowing is reckoned a great fault in a Hyacinth, and makes it of little value; because it may be gone off when others are only beginning to shew themselves; but yet the late blowers are valued, or at least preferred to the early blowers, because they produce the finest and largest flowers. The second, that the height of the stem be duly proportioned, or at least that it be rather too long, than too short; for in the

the latter case, the flower would seem buried amongst the leaves, and we could not enjoy the full pleasure of observing it.

SUCH are the conditions required to form a fine Hyacinth; but as these scarcely ever meet all together, we ought to be satisfied with a good flower, without ambitiously pretending to one that rises to the summit of perfection, and which might bear the strictest criticism by all the rules we have laid down; for though the thing be possible, yet it is almost without example, and there is nothing in nature without some imperfection.

IT would consequently be ridiculous to despise a flower because it was not possessed of all those beauties; and a florist who should obstinately insist upon such perfection, and throw away all that wanted it, would soon be stript of his whole stock, as there is hardly a single one to which nature has granted such an advantage. We ought to think ourselves happy in the possession of those that surpass others in some properties, and endeavour to produce still finer by seed; for nature is inexhaustible in her productions, and in ten thousand bulbs obtained by seed, there will not be one flower like those we have already, but a difference greater or less will always appear. By sowing the seed we may by repeated trials come nearer to perfection; by this means we produce new flowers, and so keep up, and even increase, our stock; in short, it is by this means that the Dutch florists are become famous over all Europe. Besides, what can be more entertaining! We sow full of expectation, and

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our pains are often rewarded with flowers extraordinary for their colour, of rare sorts, and exceeding our utmost wish, and which sometimes pay us well for our labour. No true florist will therefore neglect to sow.

It is not yet determined from what sorts the finest Hyacinths have been raised; but as to those the seed should be saved from, it is agreed by all that the finest single flowers are to be preferred; because the double produce very little seed, and the new flowers raised from it are also smaller. In our choice among the single flowers, the preference is to given to the *Maiden Hyacinths*, or such as have not flowered above once or twice since they were raised from seed; because the seed of these produces more double flowers, than that of others; this is a fact confirmed by experience, of which we dare not pretend to assign the cause. What carries the greatest probability, in our opinion, is, that the younger the roots are, they are so much the more vigorous, and have more force to bring the seed to perfection.

NEITHER shall we positively assert any thing upon the long disputed question about the various colours of Hyacinths produced from the seed of the same plant. As our province is confined to the cultivation of the flowers, we shall leave the explication of this phenomenon to philosophers, and such as are able to penetrate into the secrets of nature. But were we obliged to declare our sentiments on this head, we should give it as our opinion, that it proceeds from the mixture of the fine
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dust (termed *farina fecundans* by the botanists) which is found in all flowers, and which naturalists of this age, call the *semen masculinum* that impregnates the *ovarium*. This sperm is nothing else but the very fine and subtle dust contained in the summits of the chives, which may easily be carried from place to place with the least wind, and being collected from different flowers, and mixed together, may produce the effect abovementioned. The experiments made upon this matter, which have been repeated a good many times, and are well known, may be read in the *Gardener's Dictionary*, by Mr *Miller*, a very great adept in this kind of knowledge. Other examples in confirmation of this doctrine are not wanting; as in cabbages, the varieties of which are caused by such mixture; for if you plant red cabbages among white ones, the seeds of those two sorts will neither produce white nor red cabbages, but another sort that shall have something in common with both.

AFTER this it will not be thought strange, that the seeds of white flowers, mixed with others of a different colour, should produce red, white, and blue flowers; and that the seed of the blues and reds growing promiscuously together, should also produce some of different colours. Whence it naturally follows, that flowers of the same colour are not to be expected, but from seed saved from flowers of the same colour, planted in a garden by themselves, and kept separate from all other flowers; our meaning is, that if there be only red flowers in a garden, the seed saved from them will produce none but red flowers; and the same of white and blue.

TWO virtuosi of this country, not paying a proper regard to this observation, failed in a design they had formed to raise yellow flowers. They had collected a great quantity of seed from a single flower, called, the *yellow crown*, as being the yellowest Hyacinth extant. From this seed they had a considerable number of plants; amongst which, one of them had seventy double seedlings, and the other thirty. But to our great astonishment (for we went to see them) we did not find one that had any thing of yellow in it, which is a proof of the change of colour from such mixture.

IF any florist should have a strong inclination to procure yellow flowers, on account of their variety, we would advise him to plant some single yellow Hyacinths in a place at the distance of a hundred feet at least from any other Hyacinths, so that the *semen masculinum* of these could not be any way conveyed to the *ovarium* of the yellow ones, and then we think he might possibly succeed in his attempt.

WE found our opinion on the conclusions of naturalists, who assert, that if the six summits of the chives (or, as the botanists term them, *capillamenta* or *stamina*) which are loaded with the *farina* or yellowish coloured dust, be cut off when the flower begins to open, the seed will even then come to perfection in the *ovarium*, but not having been impregnated by the *semen masculinum* that was taken away, it will be sterile, and never come up, whatever care be taken in sowing it. Which proves that in the production of vegetables, as well as animals, a conjunction of two sexes is absolutely necessary; and therefore by natural consequence it follows, that the

the mixture of the same species will produce the same species, and that of different species, will produce various sorts.

Now after what we have said, which is indeed but mere speculation, we should proceed to give directions about sowing the seed; but we must first beg leave to make a little digression, to demonstrate to those, that think it a piece of folly to give fifty or a hundred guilders for a very beautiful new flower, the injustice of their opinion. Have such ever considered the pains that are to be taken, and the immense charges that attend the cultivation of Hyacinths? Have they ever reflected on the length of time the breeder must wait before he sees his flowers blow, and how rarely success attends his endeavours? What anxiety, care, and money they cost him? The bulbs from seed are hardly brought to flower in four or five years; and then how often does it happen, that after so many years trouble, there is not one in a thousand that deserves the title of a fine flower to reward him for his toil? No, certainly they who think it madness to give a high price for a Hyacinth, have never made those reflections; for if they thought coolly, and equitably weighed every thing in a just balance, they would soon be convinced by their own reason, that upon a fair calculation, fifty or a hundred guilders will not be a full recompence for what it has cost the raiser.

WE should not have made this observation, but upon account of the unjust complaints that people are continually making to us of the dearth of our flowers,

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BUT to return to our subject. The seed not being yet ripe when the roots are to be taken up, the stalks with the seed vessels are to be cut off a little above the ground; and to ripen the seed, these stalks must be planted in the earth to the depth of three or four inches, and left thus for a fortnight; at the end of which time they are to be examined to see whether the seed vessels are beginning to open, and the seed be turned black, which is a proof of its ripeness; in that case, the stalks are to be taken up very carefully, for fear of spilling the seed, and the whole laid upon a flat dish or wooden platter. The seed vessels are then to be separated from the stalk, and with the seeds laid upon another plate, and then the stalks are thrown away as useless. After this the last plate is to be exposed in a window where the sun lights, that the seed may dry. It will not be amiss to open the window in fair weather, and when the sun shines; but it must be shut when it rains, least the seed should contract any dampness. After some weeks when the seed is quite dry, it must be taken out of the pods or cases, and when cleaned, put in a paper bag, which must be kept in a dry place, because any moisture would make the seed mould, and be of very great detriment to it.

IN the month of September or October (which is the proper time for sowing) your earth being first well prepared, you are to set to work. If your quantity of seed be small, let it be sown in pots, which should be sunk in the ground up to the brim, so that the surface of the compost in the pots may be on a level with the earth in which they are sunk,
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to the end that the compost in the pots may not become too dry and unfit for vegetation; but if you have a good quantity of seed, it may be sown three inches deep in the open ground.

THERE are some who are of opinion that, to ensure success, the seed ought to be sown some days before or after the full moon, or under such and such constellations. But without entering into any disquisition, about the influence of the stars, or going about in this place to expose the errors and delusions of judicial astrology, we look upon the notion of good success from sowing in the above circumstances to be but mere superstition; and it is our opinion that the entire form of the future flower in miniature is inclosed in the seed, and that the earth, which serves for a matrix to it, by the virtue with which it is endowed by the Almighty Creator, only developes or expands it into the form under which it appears when arrived to its perfect state; and this opinion of ours we are persuaded will be embraced by all reasonable people.

AT the approach of winter, the earth must be covered with tanner's bark or leaves, three inches thick, to defend the seed from any injury it might receive by the cold; but in the spring this covering must be removed, as the seed will then be coming up, and appear above ground with very small leaves. In summer the ground you have sown must be carefully cleared from weeds, that the young bulbs may not be hurt by them; but the roots need not be taken up this year, because they are too small. The succeeding winter and spring require the same precautions as the former; and this second year you will see the bulbs send forth somewhat longer leaves.

leaves. About the end of June the bulbs are to be taken up, because if we stay till the leaves die, they will be difficult to find, and also very liable to diseases.

AFTER the roots are taken up, the same rules are to be observed, as we have before directed, for cleaning them, curing such as are sick, and preparing the earth in which they are to be put. They must be planted in September, in well prepared compost, and from that time treated as the other bulbs.

WHEN they flower, which may be in four, five, or six years, they should be carefully examined to see if there be any fine single flowers among them of bright colours, and a stick or mark put down beside these bulbs to distinguish them from the rest. The double flowers, if there be any, may also be marked with two sticks, without excepting even those that appear very ordinary; for we have often found by experience that the most ordinary flowers improve and grow better in time; and therefore with this precaution, they are to be planted with the rest, that the next year may discover whether they be improved in beauty.

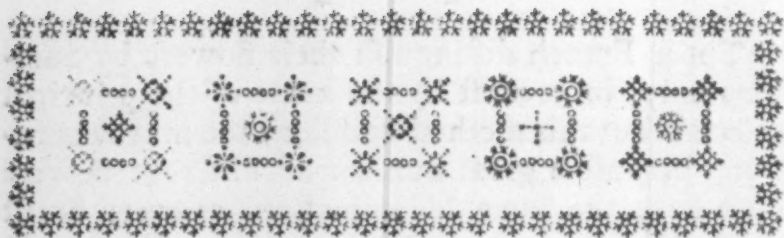
THE florists of different countries have very different methods of distinguishing their flowers. The English bestow upon them the titles of the British nobility, &c. and hence it is that several sorts have the name. The same fashion prevails with regard to their Auriculas, of which they have a vast number. They sometimes indeed add to their names that of the person who raised them from seed, which is a tolerable good method to prevent the confusion arising from the scarcity of their names.

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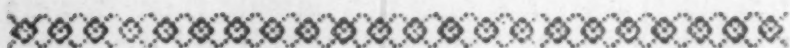
THE French distinguish their flowers by numbers only, or at most by the name of the principal colour; but this method occasions too much confusion, because a great number of different flowers may have the same denomination, as every florist marks his own with the same numbers. We would not therefore advise, but rather absolutely reject, the use of figures, as very defective.

THE method practised by the Hollanders is preferable. They not only denominate their flowers from the principal colours, but also add the names of the greatest kings, and bravest generals, the gods, goddesses, nymphs, illustrious persons and others celebrated in the most famous poets and ancient historians. They also bestow some names on them that denote their value; so that in this prodigious multitude of names it is very rare that two flowers go under the same.

WE have now finished what we proposed to deliver concerning the Hyacinth, and as our sole view was only to warn the lovers of flowers to avoid the shelves we have so often split upon, we flatter ourselves that on that consideration they will not severely mark the defects of our stile, but rather attend to the practice of our rules, which are certain and infallible for the right management of the bulbs, in which case we dare assure them of success.



O F T H E
T U L I P.



C H A P T E R I.

Of the different kinds of TULIPS, and their particular beauties.

AFTER having treated of the cultivation and beauties of the Hyacinth, good order seems naturally to engage us to speak of the Tulip; but the reader is not to expect that we should particularly mention all the different botanical species. This our plan does not require, and we should fear being thought tedious if we were to enumerate so many names, which our readers may easily find in botanical authors, especially *Tournefort*, to whom we refer those who have any desire to see a list of the names they give to them. We, for our part, confine ourselves to that species which is the ornament of our gardens, and which no florist should be without, on account of its variety and beautiful appearance. It is possessed of many rare beauties, and flowers immediately after the Hyacinth,
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that is, in the month of May; so that the florist may enjoy a continual pleasure by seeing his flowers blow in succession one after another.

THE Tulip, according to the botanical description, is a very tall plant, having a round stalk, adorned with a few long pointed leaves of a pale green colour; at the extremity of the stalk, grows the flower, which is liliaceous, consisting of six petals, and sometimes more. The pointal or *pistillum*, which is in the middle of the flower, and surrounded with the chives or *capillamenta*, becomes an oblong fruit, which opens into three parts, and is divided into three cells full of seeds, resting upon each other in a double row.

THIS flower is probably a native of Turkey, of which the name is a proof, being derived from the Turkish word *Tulpent*, which signifies a cap or turban. Gesner, in his appendix to Cordus's history, says, that he saw the first Tulip in the year 1559, in the garden of Mr Herwarts, at Augsberg, which had been raised from seed brought from Constantinople.

YET though it be originally from that country, Holland is the great magazine of the finest and most curious Tulips, which are raised there by the diligence of the florists of the Low-Countries.

WE reckon four sorts of them;

1. The early or spring Tulips.
2. The double flowered Tulips.
3. The late expectant Tulips.
4. The late striped Tulips, with a yellow or white bottom.

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WE shall say something of each of these in so many separate articles.

THE *Spring Tulips*, which blow at the same time with the *Hyacinths*, were formerly in so great reputation, that the florists placed their highest ambition in the possession of them. This passion rose to that extravagance from the year 1634 to 1637 that single roots were sold from 2000 to 5500 guilders. But the fantastical taste of those times is too well known for us to dwell upon it. The madness was at last checked by the interposition of the states of Holland and West-Friesland, who regulated the price of flowers by a law, dated 27 April, 1637.

SINCE that time the late blowers have gained the preference, and the spring Tulips are no longer in such high estimation; but they are not to be cast away; and we would advise those that desire to have different flowers blowing all the year, to furnish their gardens with these, because they are very pretty. Their principal beauty consists in their cupping well, their bright and gay colours, and being well broke. There are some that have their leaves prettily and lightly shaded with yellow and green, for which they are the more valuable. We have taken care to distinguish such among the finest flowers in our *grand catalogue of flowers*, by the two latin words *folio variegato* [with a variegated leaf.]

THIS kind is also very proper to furnish us with winter flowers, by putting the bulbs into little pots for this purpose: But of this we shall speak afterwards in another place.

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WHEN the spring flowers are gone off, another beauty succeeds to them; the *Double Tulips* begin to open. The flower of this species is formed like that of the peony, being placed at the top of an upright stem, and streaked with white and red, or yellow and red. There are but two kinds of them in our catalogue, *the imperial crown*, and *my daughter's wedding* (*la Couronne imperiale & le Mariage de ma fille*) that deserve a place in the same beds with the late blowers. They are large flowers, well filled, standing upon a stem two or three feet high, of a very agreeable white, variegated with a bright lively red, so that they would be no mean decoration to the parterres of the nicest virtuosi in flowers. The other sorts are also very pretty and well deserve a place in a fine garden. They make a charming shew at a distance, and the variety of their forms and colours strikes the eye very agreeably.

THE *late expectant Tulips* are so called, from the expectation we have of raising fine new flowers from them, they are also called, *Tulips of one colour*, or *whole-blowers*. In England they call them *breeding Tulips*, because from them the most admired new flowers are produced. In Germany they have the name of *mother Tulips*, [*Mutter Tulpen*] because we have nothing that is fine in the Tulip kind, but what owes its birth to them. They are not very beautiful in themselves, but are very valuable for the reasons above-mentioned; and a true florist should never be without a good number of them in his garden, from which he may breed very fine Tulips; a thing he must never hope

to accomplish but by their means; for these answer the same purpose in raising curious new Tulips, as the seed does in Hyacinths.

THERE are two sorts of them, the *bizarres*, which have a *yellow bottom*; and the *violettes*, of a *rose or cherry colour*, with a *white bottom*.

THE former are almost all of a brown copper or dark fawn colour, having at the bottom of the cup, or about that part to which the leaves of the flower are fixed, a small round spot, which is either yellowish, or else black mixed with a little yellow. When these Tulips break they always become *bizarres* with a yellow bottom.

THE latter, or *violettes*, are of a purple violet, pale violet, gridelin, cherry crimson, or red; the spot at the bottom being either a clear white, or blackish grey mixed with a little white. Their productions become Tulips with a white bottom (*Bybloemen*) marked with different colours.

MANY strange whims have been practised in order to produce this variety of colours in the breeding Tulips. Some have been led by their capricious folly to cut two roots through the heart, and to imagine that they should accomplish their desire, by joining the parts of the different roots together; without considering that the dividing a root in that manner was robbing it of life. Others have entertained no less ridiculous fancies. But it would take up too much time to recount all the sorry contrivances that have been put in practice; we shall therefore pass them over in silence, as useless
and

and chimerical, and proceed to lay before our readers two very easy and simple methods of producing this marvellous alteration.

THE first is to set the bulbs of the breeders in a very poor soil; and this practice is built on a well grounded hypothesis, which has ever prevailed, and is still maintained, that the breaking of flowers is occasioned by the weakening of their natural strength; and no cause is better adapted to produce this effect, than the defect of nutriment.

THE second, which is founded on our own experience, is to make as great a change as possible in the soil the bulbs are to be set in; either by taking the bulbs out of one garden and planting them in another, or by mixing different earths, or by procuring new sorts every year from Holland, which is the best way of all for foreigners. We have often experienced that such a change causes a great variety of colours; but we do not positively assert that these methods will always succeed, because nature will not at all times second our endeavours. It is however most certain that there is no better way known, than these we have just mentioned.

THE *variegated late-blowers* are the last sort of Tulips that deserve our notice. These are beyond dispute the most diversified, beautiful, and perfect of all. There is an almost infinite number of sorts of them, which are reduced by florists to five classes, viz.

1. Tulips with a white bottom, striped with brown, called *Baguette primo*.

2. SUCH

2. Such as have a white bottom, striped with brown, called *Baguette rigaut*.
3. Those with a white bottom, striped with violet, and blackish brown, called *Bybloemen*.
4. Those with a white bottom, striped with rose-colour, vermilion, and ruby.
5. Such as have a yellow bottom, striped with different colours, called *Bizarres*.

The properties required in a fine Tulip are :

1. THAT it should have a tall stem, rising to the height of three or four feet, because this is agreeable to the nature of the Tulip. All florists indeed do not concur in this opinion; for in some places the height of the Tulip is not regarded; whereas in England, Holland, and Flanders, a Tulip with a short stem would be reckoned of no value at all.

2. THAT the cup be large, well proportioned, and composed of six or eight leaves, which should not be too long, because that would spoil their symmetry: This frequently occurs in old Tulips, and sometimes in modern ones. It is also a fault, though not so disagreeable, when the cup is of the shape of an egg; because then the leaves fold over each other and close up the mouth of the flower. Yet there are many very fine Tulips that labour under this defect. The leaves ought to be of a round shape, broad, and thick; for when they are thin they crumple, and the colours are apt to be blended.

3. THE

3. THE colours ought to be lively and bright : Those that are most valued and in greatest request are the black, golden yellow, purple violet, rose, and vermillion colours. Tulips whose flowers are finely striped and variegated with three colours, distinct and unmixed, with very strong and regular streaks, without being stained with the colour of the breeder, are the finest bizarres, and may be called perfect Tulips.

BUT where is the flower to be met with that possesses all these properties? Such a one indeed has never yet been seen ; and even those which are esteemed the finest, almost always want some of these beauties.

IT would also be a perfection in Tulips if the colours always stood the same, but that is far from being the case. It sometimes happens that a flower of very great price degenerates and becomes of no value. / There is no way to prevent this shocking metamorphosis, for which nature alone is answerable ; nor can the dealers in flowers, whatever care they take, prevent these grievous changes, on account of which they undergo so much vexation, and receive so many reproaches from the lovers of flowers, who not knowing what may happen, complain that the dealers have sent them roots which had degenerated the year before.

A very critical affair of this kind, happened to ourselves. A florist having writ to us to send him some Tulips at a ducat * a piece, we used our best endeavours to please him ; and having picked out some of the finest we had at that price, they were

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* 9s. sterl.

packed up and sent to him, not doubting but he would be highly pleased with them: But what was our surprise, when at the time we supposed the gentleman was amusing himself with the agreeable shew of his flowers, we received a letter from him full of complaints, instead of the thanks we expected, and some of the leaves inclosed in it to convince us that he did not complain without just reason. This we could not but allow, when we saw the leaves; and as we could not suppose it possible for all the Tulips to have degenerated at the same time, we concluded that the parcel must have been opened, and the roots changed. Therefore to make the gentleman amends, we sent him again some of the same sorts, taking care to wrap up each root in a paper sealed with our own seal, by which means the gentleman received them safe, and was well satisfied with them, being fully persuaded, as we were ourselves, that the former box had been broke open and robbed. Thus the loss of the roots fell upon us; but such losses we never grudge, whilst we enjoy the pleasure of giving satisfaction to those that please to favour us with their orders.)

ALL Tulips are not equally liable to this alteration of colour; some being less susceptible of it than others, as the *Baguette primo* and the *Baguette rigaut*, which are the least subject to it of any. Those that have a *white bottom* with a very fine shade, as also the *Bizarres*, whose fine diversified colours form a kind of beard at the extremity of the petals, are not very changeable; but the *true bizarres*, that are painted with a mixture of several colours, and stained with that of the breeder, have their beauty soon obliterated by a sudden change.

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BEFORE we put an end to this chapter, we must observe to the florists that complain of receiving the same flowers under different names, that this is occasioned by different virtuosi being in possession of the same sorts of breeding Tulips, and giving various names to the new flowers produced from them, although they be almost alike. And besides all virtuosi are not of the same opinion; some pretending that all the bulbs broken at different times, though raised from the same breeder, are different sorts; and they ground their pretensions on this, that all the *Baguettes primo*, raised from the same breeder, are looked upon as different sorts; nor are they much in the wrong in that, for there is a great difference in the shades of the *baguettes*: but others hold the contrary opinion.

WE should be very well pleased that all were perfectly agreed upon this head, but this we believe is impossible. The only remedy that can be applied, is to reduce under the same class or denomination all the flowers of like colour and form, whatever names they bear.





C H A P. II.

Of the management of Tulips, and the manner of raising them either from the root or seed.

THE cultivation of the Tulip does not require so much nicety, trouble, and labour, by much, as that of the Hyacinth. It is very little affected either by cold or heat, and it will thrive in almost any earth; on which account we meet with them plentifully in every country of Europe, notwithstanding the very great difference of soils. It grows very well in a fat or loamy earth, provided it be well prepared, and not dug out of deep pits. Neither is a light, bituminous or sulphurous earth less agreeable to it, if it be well wrought, and mixed with cow dung that is quite rotted. Nor is a sandy earth contrary to it, so it be not too fat; though for our own part, we would chuse the loamy and sulphurous earth for the culture of Tulips. But the mud formed in stagnating waters, and the earth taken out of pits, vaults, and ponds, is quite improper, and may perhaps kill them. This two florists of our acquaintance found to their cost, who expecting some advantage from it, mixed mud and earth taken out of some hole with the natural soil of their garden; but from that fatal moment, tho' till then they had succeeded very well, and had many fine Tulips, they lost all, and never could get a single one to please them.

CARE should also be taken not to set them two years together in the same earth; this would make the

the root decay, and the flower would never be fine. A florist ought to pay great attention to this, and be sure that his earth is in good condition, before the bulbs are set in it.

THE earth being well prepared, the roots are to be planted in October, or November, three inches deep. Some virtuosi assert that the bulbs set in November will produce flowers with stripes of a finer colour than others; but, as we are ignorant of the principles on which their opinion is founded, we cannot concur with them in this notion. Tulips may also be planted in December, January, or February, and they will flower very well; but they will grow to no size. The most curious Dutch florists peel the brown skin off the bulb to make it shoot more freely, and we confess the practice is excellent; but this requires very great caution, as the least matter may bruise the bulb; and the least bruise may be of very great detriment to the Tulip.

THEY may be planted in a terrafs, parterre, or any place that may be thought most agreeable and convenient; but withal observing that the Tulip, as well as the Hyacinth, is a mortal enemy to humidity: Therefore when the garden is low ground, they ought to be planted in a terrafs at least a foot above the level of the garden. The most curious in flowers set them in beds like those used for Hyacinths*; but with this difference, that the Tulip-bed should be a foot high behind as well as in front. The earth should also be raised sloping from the sides, and those sorts that have the tallest stems planted in the middle row, those of a less height
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* See Page 8,

in the next rows, and the shortest at the sides; so that the flowers by this arrangement may form a semicircle, which will have good effect upon the eye. Each bulb should also be surrounded with sand when it is put into the ground, by which means the skins will become finer and better.

TULIPS being in no danger from cold, frost, rain; or the rigours of winter, it would answer no end to cover them during that season; but when they begin to appear above ground, and the sprouts are young, bad weather and frosts may much injure the tender leaves, and thereby do much damage to the flowers: They ought therefore to be carefully sheltered in the spring, after the same manner, and under the like circumstances, as we have before directed in the management of Hyacinths.* If this be neglected the stems and leaves will suffer by it; nor will the mischief end here, but be extended not only to the flowers, which will be less beautiful; but also to the bulbs, which will be weakened, and very much affected by the loss of their leaves.

WHEN the stems grow up and the heads begin to wax, they ought to be supported; otherwise the wind would break them, and the florist would be disappointed of his shew of flowers. For this purpose he ought to prepare sticks two, three or four feet long and of a proportionable thickness. At the top of these sticks a notch is made, into which may be slipped a tin ring three inches in diameter and a quarter of an inch broad. This stick with the ring is to be placed near each flower but without touching the root, and so that the
stalk

* See Page 17.

stalk being put through the ring, the head may rise a little above it; and care must be taken to raise up the circle as the stem grows taller, that it may better support the flower. At first we may use sticks two feet long, and afterwards of three or four feet, as occasion may require.

As the Tulips do not blow till the Hyacinths are gone off, the same shade or cover may be used, to defend them from the heat of the sun, and showers of rain or hail, that had been employed for the Hyacinths; stretching it over the Tulip bed in the same manner as has been directed for the Hyacinths.*

AFTER the flowers are faded, the stalks are to be cut off six inches above the leaves, or at least the head or seed vessel, called *pistillum* by the naturalists, is to be taken away. Some authors affirm that if the stems or heads be not cut off, the Tulips will flower very poorly the next season; but we can hardly believe any such consequence would attend the neglect of this practice; though the roots would be less, as they would lose the benefit of the juices, which are expended upon the seed-vessel to form and bring the seed to perfection.

THE time for taking up the roots is usually in June, when the leaves are dry; but as it sometimes happens that the bulbs grow dry before that time, either from some damage received by frost, or from some other cause, they should be taken up as soon as all the leaves are quite withered: and this

* See Page 12, 13.

this is to be done with all possible care, because the bulb being then very tender may be easily bruised, and by that means destroyed.

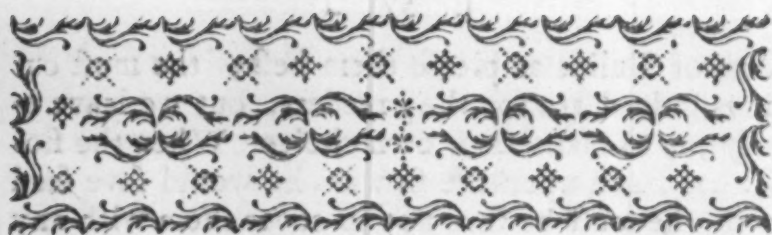
WHEN the bulbs are taken up they ought to be laid in an airy place; but not exposed to the sun, which would be very pernicious to them. Three or four weeks after, when they are well dried, they are to be freed from the outward skins that are the relicks of the old bulb; after which they may be laid again in the same place and remain there till the time of setting. Such as have not time for this operation need be under no concern for the roots, provided the sun do not come at them, and the old skins be taken off when they are put into the ground.

THESE are the rules to be followed in the management of Tulips, which are infinitely more easy than those concerning the Hyacinth; and by the observation of them every florist may flatter himself with success.

BUT before we close this part we must speak of raising Tulips from seed. This we do for the satisfaction of those whose inclination may lead them to it, but in as brief a manner as possible; because we think the pains taken to raise Tulips this way must be very disagreeable, and also unnecessary; especially as we must wait eight or ten years before we can see a Tulip in flower that has been produced by seed, and after all it is but a whole-blower.

SUCH however as like to sow, may chuse such
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sorts of Tulips as please them best; the most curious indeed are for the breeders, but we leave every one to make their own choice. When the florist has fixed upon the flowers he would save seed from, he must be sure not to cover them with any shade, because in that case the seed will not come to perfection. They must be suffered to stand in the ground till the seed-vessel begins to open, and shew the seed of a brown colour; they must then be cut, and laid in a dry place, letting the seed remain in the cases till the month of September. The seed is then to be taken out and sown at the depth of an inch in pots filled with well prepared earth, which must be placed in the shade till the month of November; when they are to be exposed to the sun. In the spring they are to be set again in the shade, and watered whilst the leaves are green. But when the leaves are withered the roots are to be taken out of these pots, and put into others, which are to be exposed to the sun, in the same manner as in the year before. After two years the bulbs are to be taken out of these second pots, and treated like other Tulips.



O F T H E
R A N U N C U L U S
A N D
A N E M O N E.



C H A P T E R I.

*Of the several sorts of RANUNCULI, and
their beauties.*



UCH as are most curious in flowers set a high value on the Ranunculus; and that not without reason, it being deservedly an object of admiration, on account of the great number of beauties it possesses, which give it a fair title to be reckoned the master-piece of nature, in the season when it is in blow. The wonderful elegance of its form, the dazzling brightness and richness of its colour, the variety and beautiful mixture of its tints, and the curious disposition of its petals cannot be matched by any flower of the season: And it is incomparably superior to all of them in many other excellent properties, which we omit to enumerate, that we may not be diverted from our proposed design

sign of laying down such simple rules, as will be sufficient to enable any one to form a judgment of the beauty of a *Ranunculus*.

IT is the general opinion that this flower is a native of Turkey, Arabia, and Persia, from whence it has been imported into Europe. The name is a diminutive word, derived from the latin *rana* (frog) because like these animals, it delights in very moist places. The following is the botanical description of it: The flower is composed of many petals, placed circularly, and expanding in the form of a rose; the cup (*calyx*) for the most part has many leaves; in the midst of the flower rises the stile (*pistillum*) which afterwards becomes a round, oval, or spiked fruit; the seeds are numerous and fixed to the axis of the stile.

WE refer the reader to the botanists for an account of the several species of this plant, which are very many, as we only design to make the oriental *Ranunculus* the subject of this treatise. This is the sort which the curious have long cultivated as the principal ornament of their gardens, and which we shall reduce under three heads, or classes.

1. The *old Turkey* *Ranunculus*.
2. The *semi-double* *Ranunculus*.
3. The *new*, or finest sort of *Ranunculus*.

WE shall not dwell long on the *old Turkey* *Ranunculus*, which was formerly in great request, but has sunk greatly in the florists esteem since they have been possessed of the *new*. Yet it is still cultivated in the finest flower gardens, and makes one
of

of their prettiest ornaments; at least it deserves a place in every garden, as being easy to manage, and requiring little or no care. The time for putting these into the ground is the month of February, an inch deep, and in a very open place; and they are to be taken up when the flower is gone off, and the leaves begin to dry.

THE *femi-double* are to be treated in the same manner as the last, to which they are not at all preferable; except that from these other new sorts are raised, on which account some value is set upon them. The mixture of their various lively colours makes an agreeable shew; but notwithstanding this variety of colour we range them all in one class under the name of *femi-double*.

THERE is a prodigious number of different species of the *new Turkey* Ranunculus, and we have made a very large collection of them; these we distinguish by their colours, and the reader may find the list of their several names in our large catalogue. We might have increased this collection with many other new sorts of Ranunculi of less beauty, but as we have promised to speak only of such as are most curious, we do not chuse to make any alteration in our catalogue; the number of fine flowers it contains being already sufficient to satisfy the florist's utmost wish,

A GOOD Ranunculus will be distinguished by the following properties:

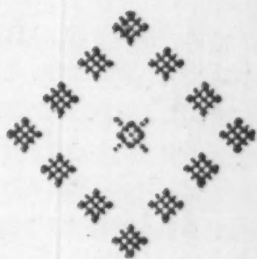
1. THE stalk or stem straight, erect, strong, well proportioned, and surmounted by a flower well disposed and standing evenly.

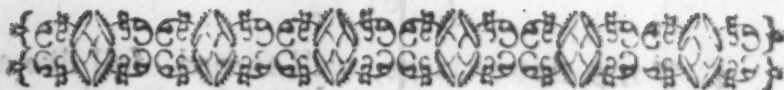
2. THE

2. THE flower large, well turned, full like a rose, and the petals cupping, or bending into a semi-circle.

3. THE petals bright, thick, and large enough to hide the stile, or little button in the centre, which offends the eye.

4. THE colours with which the petals are distinguished should be disposed in even, straight, and distinct lines, without mixing or running into each other. The particular colours that most set off a flower are an agreeable mixture of gold and ruby or brown; stripes of violet or tyrian purple; or white, edged with vermillion, blue, or black. If all these properties meet in a Ranunculus we may then pronounce it a perfect flower; but such perfection is not to be expected; and a Ranunculus that has two or three of these properties may be reckoned a fine flower, and worthy of the esteem of the curious.





CH A P. II.

Of the several sorts of ANEMONE, and their beauties.

THE order we have hitherto pursued requires us to treat next of the culture of the Ranunculus; but as that of the Anemone is almost the same, we now drop our former method, and shall first speak of the several sorts and properties of the Anemone, and in the next chapter lay down rules for the management of both these flowers.

THE Anemone is not destitute of peculiar beauties. Nature has allotted it such qualities as form a very fine flower, and enriched it with a shining azure or sky-blue colour. The stalk is simple, and naked, except a single green leaf, divided into three parts, that surrounds the middle of it; at the top of this grows one flower, composed of several large petals, placed circularly (called by florists the *man-teau** of the Anemone) which inclose a great number of smaller leaves. The stile, which only appears in the single flowers, rises from the centre of the flower, in form of an oval button, surrounded with the seeds, which are covered with a downy pellicle.

THE name is derived from the Greek word *ανμος* (wind) whence it is also called, Wind-flower, because it is easily moved with the wind, and
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* *Manteau* in French signifies *Mantle*, but I do not find that our florists distinguish this part of the flower by any particular name.

cannot bear its blasts ; and not, as Pliny and others suppose, because it opens when the wind blows ; for daily experience teaches the contrary, that it only opens to the sun, and the most so in calm weather.

THE place of its original is very uncertain ; some pretend that it was brought to us from America, others hold the contrary ; it is sufficient for us, without engaging on either side of the question, that we have this fine flower in Holland, where it is cultivated with great application.

THEY are divided by the florists into two species, the single and the double. The first is only kept for the sake of their seed, and require no care but to be planted in a common bed, two inches deep, in the beginning of March.

THE double are of all colours, but yellow, (which we hope may also be obtained in time) and well deserve the attention of the curious. The properties of a fine Anemone are ; a good stalk, a large flower, well filled, thick, close, and of a bright colour ; the outward petals, or *manteau*, ought to be round, and larger than the small leaves within. It is also a great beauty in this flower, when it shines and blazes with variety of hues, and the *manteau* and *small petals* are of different colours. Such are the properties required in a perfect Anemone. We now proceed to the management of it and the *Ranunculus*. We have given directions before about the *old Turkey*, and *semi-double*, so that we shall now only speak of the third or finest sort.



C H A P. III.

Of the culture of the finest sort of RANUNCULI, and ANEMONES.

RANUNCULUSES and Anemones may be planted either in spring or autumn. They require a light well wrought earth; whether it be loamy or sulphurous is indifferent, provided it be well mixed with cow-dung, without which the roots would not receive sufficient nutriment. Those florists that chuse to plant in autumn, ought to have a good bed, of the same form as for Hyacinths, two feet and an half high behind, and one foot in front; this bed should lie to the south, and be covered in winter with slides, mats, or straw, to protect the roots from the frost which might destroy them.

RANUNCULUSES may be planted in September, to have the pleasure of seeing them flower at the same time the Hyacinths are in full blow. They will begin to shew themselves a few weeks after they are in the ground; but then very great care must be taken to preserve them from frost, hail, and the heavy winter showers; for these three things are very destructive to them. Frost kills the leaves, hail is also baneful, and winter rains make them mould; therefore when you expect frost, take especial care to prevent the rain from coming at them; for if a frost should come on when the leaves are wet, there is an end of them. But when the earth is dry, and the frost has continued for some weeks, the covers ought to be taken off when

when the weather is fair and the sun shines, otherwise the leaves might mould, which would injure the roots very much. When it freezes very intensely, a covering of mats should be thrown over the slides. In March they should only be covered during the night and in great showers of hail.

THESE precautions are to be taken with regard to Ranunculuses planted in September; but we would not have any to chuse this season of the year, because of the great trouble and care that it necessarily requires to preserve them.

IF they be set in the beginning of November, they will be in blow at the same time with the Tulips, and the management of them is attended with much less difficulty; because the leaves beginning to spring in winter will be small and less subject to any impression from the frost and rigour of the season. In all other respects they are to be treated in the same manner as those that were planted in September, with this difference however, that they do not require so great nicety, being more able to bear the cold, and less liable to mould. They may be planted two inches deep, and four or five distant from each other.

As to Anemones they are planted in the middle of September in a bed, as the Ranunculus, and at the same depth and distance. They begin to put up some weeks after they have been set in the earth, and will be in flower at the same time with the Hyacinth. They are treated as the Ranunculus; but as their leaves are more hardy, and consequently less subject to be hurt by the severity of the

I edit of the early win-

winter, they do not require so much attention; nor need they be covered so much to shelter them from frost, which they will bear very well if it be moderate.

WE will here give some reasons why the season of autumn is preferable to the beginning of the year for planting these flowers; and which, for the encouragement of the curious, will convince them that the pleasure they will receive when they flower, will sufficiently recompence them for all the extraordinary pains they take in the winter.

1. WHEN Ranunculuses and Anemones are planted in autumn, the flowers grow larger, fuller, and more beautiful; we have the pleasure to see them blow at the same time with the Hyacinths, or Tulips, and have exhibited to us at one view, all that is most charming and agreeable to the eye.

2. IF they be planted in the spring they flower in June, when the season is too hot to allow the flower to stand for any time; but if they be set in autumn, the season of blowing being more moderate, they will continue longer in flower, and consequently afford greater pleasure to the florist.

3. THE roots will also be better fed, and grow larger and better. Other reasons might be added, but these we think sufficient for the confirmation of this point.

HAVING given rules concerning the planting of Ranunculuses and Anemones in the autumn, we now come to those which are to be observed when they are planted in the spring.

RANUNCULUSES, which love moisture, ought to be set two inches deep, as soon as the frost is over, or at least *before the end of January*, for if the time be delayed longer, they will blow when the season is too hot.

ANEMONES on the contrary, which cannot bear the wet winter, should be planted two inches deep, at the end of March; for if they be put in sooner, the earth, not being sufficiently heated by the beams of the sun, would want vegetative power to make the root strike.

RANUNCULUSES and Anemones are to be planted in earth well wrought, very mellow, and well mixed with cow-dung. The time to take them up is when the flower is entirely gone off, and the leaves quite withered with the summer's heat; then they are to be dried, and freed from all dirt, taking particular care not to expose the roots to the heat of the sun, after they are taken out of the earth, for nothing can be more prejudicial to them; either because the sun exhales the juices necessary to their vegetation, or else the heat of its rays constringes the pores too much. Whatever be the cause it is very certain, and we have proved it by repeated experience, that roots so exposed will not come up again the following year.

WHEN they are *well dried* they may be laid by in a *very dry* place, and continue there till the time of planting. Those that are designed to be set in the spring ought to be carefully preserved from moisture during the winter, by keeping them in a room where there is a stove; or, if that convenience

nience be wanting, in the driest room in the house. This precaution is the more necessary, as these flowers (especially the *Anemones*) are very liable to mould, which is of the worst consequence to the roots.

SUCH curious florists as have an ambition to raise new sorts, endeavour to do so by saving seed from the *semi-double* *Ranunculuses*; the double seldom producing any. For this purpose they pitch on such *semi-doubles* as have the brightest colours, and sow the seed in March or April, or even in August; but we would prefer the spring, because then we avoid the trouble of covering them in winter. The seed should be sown in pots, which must be set in the shade, and only by degrees enured to bear being exposed to the sun. After some time the seed will send forth little green leaves, and then all the trouble will be reduced to the keeping the pots very moist. When these leaves are dead the roots are to be taken up, and planted in a common bed like the rest. The next year the florist will reap the fruits of his labour; his new flowers will then appear, and in all probability fully gratify his curiosity with their beauty.

As to the *Anemone*, though the seed produces few double flowers, it is good to sow it to have new sorts. The seed is only to be got from the single flowers, for the double bear none at all; and the best sorts to gather it from are the deep violets, and such as are all red. It is sown in a common bed, in the month of March; but it must be first well rubbed, or else it cannot be sown regularly. It requires no trouble; the leaves rising in
great

great numbers will occasion the roots to be very small, but they will be no worse for that; they must be taken up when the leaves are decayed, and then planted with the other Anemones.

WE have now concluded what we proposed to say concerning the four principal ornaments of Flora; but as there are many other flowers which contribute much to the beauty of a garden, we will speak of them in the next section.





OF THE
Several other KINDS
O F

F L O W E R S.



C H A P. I.

Of the different kinds of flowers which blow in each month, and the method of cultivating each sort.

BEFORE we enter upon the subject of cultivating the several sorts of flowers which embellish our gardens from the month of February till November, it will not be improper to give a list of those that flower not only in the spring, but also in summer, and autumn.

N. B. The capital letters annexed to the names of flowers in the following catalogue denote the authors, by whom they are so denominated; and the numerical figure the number of the species, according to the order in which they are ranged by those authors.

- B.* Boerhave's Index alter plantarum.
R. Van Royen's Floræ Leid. prodromus.
M. Miller's Gardener's Dictionary.

Flow-

Flowers that blow in February.

Cyclamen Aleppicum odoratum, folio marmoreo, flore albo.

Cyclamen Aleppicum odoratum, folio marmoreo, flore albo, basi purpurea. B. 2. M. 5.

Cyclamen Aleppicum odoratum, folio marmoreo, flore albo, basi rosea.

Cyclamen hyemale, flore rubro. *C. hyemale*, folio orbiculari, purpurascente flore. B. 1. R. 1.

Leucojum bulbosum, flore albo pleno. *Narcissus Leucojum*. M. 3. *Naaktemannen vulgo*.

In March.

Narcissus campernellus, flore luteo.

Narcissus nana, flore sulphureo pleno. *N. parvus*, flore sulphureo pleno.

Narcissus nana, flore luteo minore. *Narcissus parvus*, totus luteus. B. 1.

Narcissus Trompet marin. *Narcissus juncifolius*, flore tubam referente. B. 4.

Iris persica. *Iris acaulis*. R. 13. *Xiphium Persicum*, flore variegato. B. 1. M. 1.

Hyacinthus flore borraginis.

Hyacinthus stellatus, flore albo; vel flore exalbido. B. 4.

Hyacinthus stellatus, flore cæruleo. B. 1.

Hyacin.

Hyacinthus stellatus, flore rubro ; vel flore
suave rubente. B. 6.

Crocus vernus. Of this there is an assortment
of many kinds, and different colours.

Dens canis. There are four sorts of different
colours.

Don folio, flore albo.

In April.

Hyacinths, both *single* and *double*, which have
been described before.

Tulips (Early) already described.

Ranunculuses, when planted in September.

Anemones, when planted in the middle of Sept.

Polyanthus Narcissuses. *Narcissus orientalis poly-*
anthos. *Tazetten*, or *Tros Narcissen*. Of this we
have an assortment of eighty of the finest sorts.

Narcissus Jacobæus vel *solitarius coccineus*. *A-*
maryllis spatha uniflora. R. 3. *Lilio-narcissus*, flore
sanguineo nutante; when it is planted in February,
in pots in a hot bed.

Narcissus Incomparable. *Narcissus incomparabi-*
lis, flore pleno, partim flavo, partim croceo. M. 8.

Narcissus Orange Phoenix. *Narcissus latifolius flo-*
re pleno, petal. major. candid. &c. M. 9.

Narcissus van Sion, flore toto luteo.

Jon-

Jonquilles, flore simplici luteo odoratissimo.
Narcissus junci folio luteus odoratissimus.

Jonquilles, flore simplici majore. *Narcissus junci folio, oblongo calice luteo majore. M. 32.*

Jonquilles, flore simplici minore. *Narcissus junci folio luteus minor.*

Iris Neapolitana. *Iris humilis*; three sorts, with white, red, and variegated flowers.

Corona imperialis, or imperial Crown; of which there are many very fine sorts.

Lilium rubrum vernum.

Hyacinthus muscari, two sorts. *B. 2. and 3.*

Hyacinthus botryodies flore carneo.

Fritillaria, several fine sorts. *Kievits-Eijeren vulgo.*

Sanicula flore pleno albo.

In May.

Tulips, double, breeders, and late-blowers; of which we have given a particular description.

Ranunculuses; when planted in November, as we have said above.

Narcissus tertius Matthioli. Pancratium spatha multiflora, foliis ensiformibus, flore albo odorato. R. 2. Narcissus Illyricus. B. 24. M. 15.

K

Nar.

Narcissus Gareteus minor. *Amaryllis spatha uniflora*. R. 2. *Lilio-narcissus indicus*, flore ex albo, extus rubente.

Jonquilles, flore pleno odorato. *Narcissus junci folio*, flore pleno. M. 24.

Iris tuberosa, vel *Hermodactylus*, folio quadrangulari. B. *Iris* R. 12.

Hyacinthus Belgicus. *Hyacinthus corollis campanulatis*. B. and R. Of this there are three sorts, with white, rose-coloured, and blue flowers.

Hyacinthus coralloides flore purpureo. *H. floribus paniculatis monstrosis*. R. 5.

Ornithogallum, of which there are several sorts.

In June.

Ranunculuses and Anemones, when they are planted in the beginning of the year, as particularly mentioned in the 3d Sect.

Narcissus flore albo pleno. *Tydeloozen vulgo*.

Iris bulbosa Hispanica. *Iris angustifolia bulbosa* ;

Iris bulbosa Hispanica, flore pleno. *Iris angustifolia bulbosa*, flore pleno ; *Xiphium*. B. *Xiphion angustifolium*. M. *Spaanse (Spanish) Iris vulgo*. Of this there are a number of different sorts very fine. They are very beautiful in the time of flowering.

Iris Susiana, flore maximo ex albo nigricante. B. 7. M. 6. *Iris corollis barbatis*. R. 1.

Iris

Iris latifolia; two sorts. *Iris latifolia*, *petalis erectis*. B.

Lilium radice asphodeli, flore carmosino. *Lilio-asphodelus puniceus*. B. 2. M. 2. *Hemerocallis*. R. 1.

Lilium radice asphodeli, flore luteo. *Lilio-asphodelus*. B. 1. M. 1.

Lilium alpinum. *Lilio-asphodelus minor flore albo magno*. *Lilium*. B. *Hemerocallis*. R. 2.

Hyacinthus flore oblongo sexpartito. *H. flore oblongo suave rubente*. B. 13.

Hyacinthus plumosus, flore cœruleo.

Hyacinthus stellatus Africanus, flore cœruleo. *Lilio-Hyacinthus*. B. 1. *Scilla*. R. 2.

Hyacinthus stellatus Africanus, flore purpureo. *Lilio-Hyacinthus flore purpureo maximo*.

Moly major, flore albo. *Allium*. B. 7.

Moly major, flore purpureo.

Moly minor flore luteo. *Allium*. B. 1.

Pæonia, five beautiful sorts.

Tulipa Persica, flore luteo et rubro mixto.

In July.

Narcissus jacobæus vel solitarius coccineus. *Amaryllis spatha uniflora*. R. 3. *Lilio-narcissus*, flore sanguineo nutante; when planted in April.

Iris bulbosa Anglica. *Iris latifolia bulbosa*. *Iris* R. 14. *Xiphion latifolium*, *Chamoletta dictum*. M.
There

There are many different sorts very fine and beautiful. This is the prettiest of all the flowers of the season. *Engelse (English) Iris vulgo.*

Iris angustifolia, three sorts; flore cæruleo. B. 17. flore variegato. B. 18. and, flore pulcherrimo variegato. B. 19.

Iris Florentina, flore amplo albo. B. 6. M. 4.

Martagon, Krul-Leelien. Lilium floribus reflexis. B. M. of which there are many fine sorts.

Lilium album. Lilium album flore erecto & vulgare. M. 1.

Lilium album, flore pleno majore. B. 4. M. 2.

Lilium album, folio maculato. B. 3.

Lilium album, folio variegato. B. 2. M. 5.

Lilium flore maculato variegato. M. 6. *Lilium album, flore lineis purpureis variegato.*

Lilium rubrum majus. Lilium croceum majus. B. 4. M. 7.

Gladiolus, several sorts.

In August.

Cyclamen æstivum, flore rubro, radice Anemones. C. flore purpureo minore odorato. B. 15. C. æstivum *Persicum dictum.*

Cyclamen æstivum odoratum radice rotunda. C. folio orbiculato inferne purpurascente, flore purpureo odorato.

Tu-

Tuberosus flore albo. *Polyanthos floribus alternis.*
R. 1. Hyacinthus Indicus tuberosus. B. 1. Hyacinthus
flore hyacinthi orientalis. M. 1.

Tuberosus flore albo pleno. *Polyanthos. R. Hy-*
cinth. tuberosus. B. 2. Hyacinth. flore hyac. M. 2.

Tuberosus flore albo, folio variegato. *Polyan-*
thos flore albo, foliorum limbis aureis.

In September.

Narcissus Bella-donna, flore majore. *Amaryllis*
spatha multiflora. R. 7. Lilionarcissus Zeylonicus, flo-
re niveo extus purpur. striato. B. 5.

Narcissus Bella-donna, flore medio.

Narcissus Bella-donna, flore minore.

Narcissus Japonicus rutilo flore. *Amaryllis spa-*
tha multiflora. R. 5. Lilionarcissus. B. 4. M. 4.
Guernsey Lily.

Narcissus Indicus flore liliaceo. *Amaryllis mul-*
tiflora, bulbo rotundo, flore ex albo & purpureo mixto.

Narcissus Indicus flore albicante extus purpura-
 scente.

In October.

Cyclamen autumnale, flore albo. *C. autumnale,*
flore albo, hederæ folio. M. 2.

Cyclamen autumnale, flore albo, folio hastato.

Cyclamen autumnale, flore carneo. *C. autumnale,*
flore purpureo, hederæ folio. M. 1.

Cy-

Cyclamen autumnale, flore carneo, folio hastato.

Cyclamen autumnale, flore roseo.

Colchicum autumnale Aprippina, flore variegato.

C. Chion, floribus fritillariæ instar tessulatis, foliis undulatis. R. 2. B. 6. M. 4.

Colchicum autumnale, flore luteo; vel *Crocus Narcissus*. *Amaryllis spatha uniflora*. R. 1. *Lilionarcissus luteus autumnalis*. M 8.

Colchicum autumnale, several fine sorts.

Crocus autumnalis, flore cœruleo majore. *Crocus sativus*. B. M. Saffron.

Crocus montanus autumnalis.

Crocus pyrenæus montanus flore cœruleo.

AFTER having mentioned the different species of flowers, and their seasons of blowing, we shall now proceed to give some directions for the culture of each; taking them in the order they stand in our catalogue of bulbous rooted flowers.

NEXT to the Hyacinths, Tulips, Ranunculuses, and Anemones, of which we have treated already, the *Polyanthus Narcissus* holds the first place, and demands our chief attention. The flower is very pretty, and the colours pleasing. Some are yellow, with a golden or orange-coloured cup in the middle; other white, with yellowish, lemon-coloured, or golden cups; and others again all white: All these colours form so many divisions in our grand catalogue of flowers. This flower is very easy to manage, and only requires a particular care to secure it from frost: It ought therefore to be planted

ed in November, eight inches deep; otherwise the frosts in the spring would nip the tender leaves when they first shoot. In more northern climates they should be planted earlier, and the bed covered during the winter with straw, leaves, or tanner's bark, to preserve them from the frost. The earth they are set in, ought to be fine and well wrought, but mixed with very little dung; this plant having a great aversion to a fat soil. The time of taking up the bulbs is the end of July.

THE different kinds of *Narcissus* require different treatment. The three sorts of *Bella-donna*, *Gareteus minor*, *Indicus flore liliaceo*, *Indicus flore albicante extus purpurascente*, the two sorts of *Nana*, *tertius Matthioli*, *Trumpet marine*, and *campernellus flore luteo*, demand the same method of culture. They are set in October, in well wrought earth, three or four inches deep, in a bed exposed to the sun. The bed must be covered in winter to prevent the frost from reaching to the roots: for they are more affected by cold than the *Polyanthus Narcissus*. They may be taken up in July, but it is better to let them stand two or three years, to make them flower more; and the bulbs run no risk by remaining in the ground, but will be preserved very well. All those different sorts of *Narcissus* are very beautiful; particularly the *Bella-donnas*, which are of a rose colour, an agreeable scent, and produce several cups; as also the *Indicus flore liliaceo*, and *flore albicante extus purpurascente*.

THE *Jacobæus vel solitarius coccineus* is one of the prettiest flowers that can be seen, of a bright blood red colour, sprinkled with small golden specks.

specks. It may be planted in April, two or three inches deep, in well prepared earth, and well exposed. But it is better to put it into pots at the latter end of February, and set them upon a hot bed, in which case it will flower at the same time as the Hyacinth; only care must be taken to remove the pots into the open air, when the *Narcissus* begins to blow. They are to be taken out of the earth in October, and the bulbs dried, and laid by in a very dry room, where a fire is kept, because they can bear no frost. If proper care be taken in this respect, the management of them will require little pains, and you may be certain of fine flowers.

THE *Japonicus rutilo flore*, or *Guernsey-Lily*, is a native of *Japon*; but thrives very well in *Guernsey* and *Jersey*, and even better there than in any other part of Europe; England and France, which lie so near those isles, not excepted. It is very nice to manage, especially to bring it to flower. It is planted in pots, filled with strong well wrought earth, and set upon a hot bed, as we have mentioned above with regard to the *Narcissus Jacobaeus*. Those that would know more of it, may consult Mr Miller's Dictionary, who gives full directions about it.

THE four last kinds of *Narcissus*, that is, *N. flore albo pleno odorato*, *incomparable*, *Orange phoenix*, and *Van Sion*, give no trouble, and are not liable to be hurt by frost; and therefore may be planted in any earth, without cover. They are very ornamental upon terrasses, in walks, alleys, or other places where less hardy flowers would be lost.

THE

THE *Jonquilles*, *flore pleno odorato*, and *flore simplici odoratissimo*, require a strong earth, well prepared; and a good exposure. They are planted in autumn, four inches deep, covered in winter, and taken up in July. The first sort, *with double flowers*, are exceeding pretty, but too well known to need any encomium; they are in general esteem on account of their fine colour and the singularity of their form, but more so for their delicate fragrancy. The latter, *with the most odoriferous single flower*, has the same scent and colour, and only differs from the former in the singleness of the flower. The other two sorts, *flore simplici majore*, and *minore*, require very little pains in the cultivation, and are treated in the same manner as the last four sorts of *Narcissus*, mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

THE *Iris bulbosa Anglica* is worthy of the florist's attention, as it is very beautiful, the colours very bright, and the form elegant. They are planted in well wrought earth, the depth of three or four inches, and must be placed in the shade, that we may enjoy the pleasure of seeing them for some weeks; because, as they flower in summer, the too great heat would soon make them fade. But nature, to make amends for the short duration allotted to this flower, has provided for the renewal of its existence, by almost always producing a *second* flower from the same stalk. They are covered to save them from frost, and taken up in August; after which they are cleaned and freed from the bad skin; but particular care must be taken to plant them again in a little time after, because they are spoiled by being kept long out of the earth.

THE *Iris bulbosa Hispanica* is a very fine flower, in which the different colours of gold, azure, purple, and filemot serve to set off each other. They are cultivated with little trouble, in the same manner as the *Iris Anglica*; except that they are planted in autumn, it not being necessary to put them in soon after they are taken up.

THE *Iris fusiana, flore maximo ex albo nigricante* is treated like the *Bella-donnas**; they may also be planted in March, in the same exposure as the *Anemone*†; but the former method is preferable, in our opinion. This is a charming flower and affords ample satisfaction for the pains taken about it. Its large size, singular and uncommon form, and blackish colour, give a beauty to it surpassing all description.

ALL the kinds of *Iris* mentioned in our catalogue, require the same culture as the *Iris Anglica*. They all have their merit: The *Iris Florentina* is white and used in medicine. The *Iris hermodactylos, or tuberosa*, is a very fine curious flower, both for form and colours, being green mixed with jet black. The *Iris Hispanica flore pleno* is a fine double flower of the colour of the rainbow. The *Iris Persica flore variegato* is an early blower, very beautiful, of a pale blue colour, mixed with jet, yellow, and sea-green. All these sorts spoil when they are long out of the ground, and therefore must be put in again soon after they are taken up.

THE *Corona imperialis* is a very fine majestic flower, and rises higher than any other of the bulbous rooted plants, with a strong upright stalk, and

* See p. 79.

† See p. 97.

and its flowers are surmounted by a truss of leaves, disposed in form of a crown. This flower requires little trouble; it is planted in September, or October, at the depth of six inches, in a raised situation, being an enemy to moisture. It is taken up every year in July, as soon as the leaves are dead; and when the roots are cleaned they are to be laid by in a very well aired room.

THE *Martagons*, which are very pretty, and of a bright colour, require no trouble. They are planted in autumn, six inches deep, and not taken up till the second or third year. The *Martagon Canadensis major* is not so hardy, and should be treated like the *Bella-donna Narcissuses**. In this last sort you always find two or three bulbs joined together, one of which is the old bulb; these you must be sure not to separate, as that would endanger the loss of the roots.

THE *Lilium* is a fine flower. It loves the shade, and wants no more attendance than the *Martagons*. The most common sort, though of low price, is worthy of esteem. Some learned interpreters are of opinion, that by the *Lilie of the valleys* in the song of Solomon, 2. 1. is not meant the *Lilium convallium*, but the noble *Lilium album*, or white Lily. All the other kinds of Lily are very beautiful; and the leaves of the *Lilium album flore striato* are finely variegated with green and yellow; and being an ever-green it makes a charming shew in the dull winter season.

THE different sorts of *Hyacinth* require different methods of cultivation. The three kinds of
Hy-

* See p. 79.

Hyacinthus Belgicus, the *botryoides*, *coralloides*, *flore borraginis*, *plumosus*, and the two sorts of *muscari* are easily managed. They are put down in autumn, three or four inches deep in any kind of earth, and taken up when the leaves are dried. The several kinds of *stellatus* are more sensible of cold, and therefore ought to have a slight covering in winter; they must also be put into the earth again the same week they are taken up, as they will not bear to be long out, without spoiling. The *flore oblongo sexpartito*, and the different sorts of *stellatus Africanus* (which we have from the Cape of Good Hope) are the most tender, and demand the very same treatment as the *Narcissus Bella-donna*.* All these different Hyacinths, which belong to the same genus as the *Oriental*, are worthy of the florist's attention, and we think none that are curious ought to be without them.

THE four sorts of *Cyclamen*, (*Aleppicum*, *autumnale*, *aestivum*, and *hyemale*) are very curious pretty flowers. If the *Autumnals* be planted in good earth, and with a good exposure, they will thrive very well without any other trouble than covering them a little in winter. The others require more care in the management of them; they must be planted with a south aspect, and well defended against the frost in winter, and in other respects treated in the same manner as the *Ranunculuses* planted in autumn.† Or else they may be set in pots, which are put into the earth in summer, and when the frosts come on, removed into the green-house and set near the windows. They must not be watered in winter; but if the earth grows dry, the pots are to be set in dishes filled with water. One particu-
la-

* See p. 79.

† See p. 64.

larity is observable of this plant, that it cannot be propagated by offsets, but only by seed, which is to be sown as soon as it is ripe, in earth well prepared, and in a good exposure; this will soon produce new bulbs; but the flowers will be exactly the same both in colour and form, as that from which the seed was taken; so that the florist need entertain no hopes of procuring new varieties. The leaves of the *Cyclamens* are prettily marbled. Those of *Aleppo* are more beautiful and larger than the others. The *aestivum odoratum radice rotunda* has an agreeable scent. And the *aestivum flore rubro, radice anemones* differs from the rest in having a root shaped like that of the Anemone.

THE *Corcus vernus*, and *autumnalis* are of a very easy culture. They are very ornamental in gardens in the months of March and October, when few flowers are to be seen.

NONE of the sorts of *Colchicum autumnale* give any trouble at all, except the *agrippina flore variegato*, and the *flore luteo vel crocus-narcissus*, which require a little covering in winter. The bulb of this flower has a very singular property; it needs neither earth nor water to make it germinate, but produces its flower in any place of the house, without planting. The three sorts of *Crocus autumnalis* also do the same. The *Colchicum agrippina* is a very rare flower, variegated with small spots like the Fritillary.

THE *Fritillaries* are very agreeable flowers, may be planted in any kind of earth, and demand no care, provided they be put again into the earth a little while after they are taken up.

ALL

ALL the rest of the bulbous rooted flowers (except the *Tuberoſe*) are cultivated without much trouble. The flowers of the *Dens canis* are very beautiful, almoſt like the *Cyclamen*, and the leaves are agreeably marbled; they are to be put again into the earth ſoon after taking them up. The *Don folio*, and *Leucojum bulbolum*, *ſore albo pleno* are ſpring flowers which begin to embellish our gardens, as ſoon as ever nature begins to recover her ſtrength; theſe ſhould be planted in the ſhade, and not taken up till the ſecond or third year. The *Gladiolus* blows in ſummer. The *Moly* bears flowers on tall ſtems. The *Ornithogallum* produces a great number of flowers upon the ſame ſtem, each being in the form of a ſtar, and new ſorts are produced of different colours. The *Pæonia* is an extremely beautiful flower, of an extraordinary ſize, and ſhaped like a roſe; it muſt not be moved for four or five years, and then the plant grows to be a fine buſh. The *Sanicula ſore pleno* is a very pretty ſmall flower, and the bulb is ſo extremely little, that it is ſurprizing to ſee it produce ſuch a flower. The *Tulipa Perſica* is a fine ſmall Tulip of a yellow brown colour; the leaves are twiſted and lie upon the ground.

THE *Tuberoſes*, which are a ſpecies of Hyacinth, muſt be planted in March, at the depth of three inches, in ſuch a hot bed, as is prepared for Melons; or elſe in pots which muſt be ſet on a hot bed. In June the windows muſt be opened to give them air; and they are to be taken up in autumn, as ſoon as the leaves are dry; after which they are to be treated in the ſame manner as has been directed for the *Jacobæus vel ſolitarius coccineus*.

neus.* We are indebted for the *double Tuberoses* to M. de la Court, a renowned botanist at Leyden, who took so much pains in cultivating the single flowers, that at last he brought them to perfection, and made them double. But we are taught by experience that they soon return to their original state, if they want sufficient nutriment to force them to grow. The striped-leaved tuberoses (*folio variegato*) are even tenderer than the former; they must be made to grow very strong, or else they will not flower; their leaves, variegated with yellow and green, are very beautiful in their season.

* See p. 80.





CHAP. II.

*Of the methods to make FLOWERS blow before
the season, and in winter.*

THE spring is allowed by all to be the most agreeable season of the year. Nature then roused from her lethargy displays to our eyes a thousand enchanting beauties, and charms our ears with the most melodious music. Every thing seems to proclaim her renovation; the clouds distil dew, and shed upon the earth that delicious fattening juice, which by invigorating its powers, gives birth to flowers without number, and perfumes the air with the most agreeable scents.

To this delightful season, summer succeeds, adorned with the most beautiful foliage, impenetrable by the sun; whose shade invites us to gentle sleep. The earth clothed with smiling verdure charms our eyes, whilst the crystal brook murmuring over the pebbles lulls us into the most pleasing reveries.

THEN autumn, coming to set bounds to the efforts of nature, or rather to bring her works to perfection, with full hands lavishly scatters around those treasures, which are so necessary for the support and pleasure of life.

BUT in winter, nature sunk again into her former languishing condition, and stript of all her charms,

charms, wears the most melancholy aspect. Now the earth is deluged with continual rains; to these succeed the horrors of frost; the unbridled rage of the winds spreads wide desolation; the sun seems to turn his face from the shocking prospect; and the earth herself, wrapt up in snow, silently mourns the beauties of the spring, the sweets of summer, and the riches of autumn. Yet this season is not without its advantages. It may be considered as a time of tranquillity, in which we may taste a thousand pleasures of domestic retirement. Nay, the industry of man may put a force upon nature, and, in spite of the rigours of winter, produce in that season all the beauties of the spring. Thus *Homer* speaking of the gardens of *Alcinous*, tells us that the vines bore at the same time leaves, flowers, and fruit. But we need not go so far for evidence; we have conviction before our eyes. At this present time (the 1st of February) our room is set out like an amphitheatre, being furnished with a hundred pots and glasses, with flowers as lively and beautiful as they can be in the natural season. The *Narcissuses* are very pretty, and with their beautiful colours seem to rival and (if it were possible) eclipse the lustre of the *Hyacinths*, which arise with noble splendor, attended with an agreeable scent, and whose bright colours, vermillion, azure, white, and sanguine red mixed together, dazzle the eye; whilst the sweet *Jonquilles* embalm the whole room with aromatic perfumes. Thus by industry we are able to exhibit a pleasant garden in a chamber, and that at a season when nature bound in winter's icy fetters lies torpid and incapable of acting.

M

BUT

BUT all kinds of flowers are not equally adapted for this purpose; some of them will not afford us this pleasure. The most proper for this use are the following:

Hyacinths, double and single.

Tulips, early-blowers.

Polyanthus Narcissus.

Narcissus nana, flore luteo minor; Dwarf

Narcissus, with a yellow flower.

Narcissus incomparable; Primrose Peerless.

Narcissus orange phoenix.

Narcissus van Sion.

Jonquilles, double and single.

Iris Persica; Persian Iris.

Dens canis.

Crocus vernus; Spring Crocus.

THE Hyacinths, Polyanthus Narcissus, Jonquilles, and Iris Persica may be put either in pots, or upon glasses; but the rest of the bulbs in the foregoing catalogue will do much better in pots than glasses. The pots are china of three inches diameter, and four or five deep; which depth is sufficient to make the bulbs flower. Seven or eight inches is height enough for the glasses or bottles, and the mouth must be proportioned to the size of the bulbs, which are to be put into them about the middle of October, taking care that the bottom of the bulb touch the surface of the water, that the fibres may shoot into it. The water ought to be fresh rain water, and changed every month. Those who would have their bulbs in pots, must fill them with well prepared earth, and observe that the top of the bulb be on a level with the surface of the earth.

THE

THE fibrous roots of the Narcissus, and Jonquille are not apt to strike in water; these should therefore be first set in earth for four weeks, and then placed in the glasses, having first washed the roots, and taking care that all the fibres lie in the water.

WHEN you do not want to have the bulbs in flower before the end of January, or beginning of February, they must only be set in the window of a room, in which a fire is kept all winter, and exposed to the sun every opportunity that offers; for the more they are in the air the better they will succeed. But you must take care that the bulbs planted in pots have as much moisture as shall be necessary, by means of a hole at the bottom of the pot, which is to be set for this purpose in a plate filled with water, and taken out again when the earth is moistened.

IN places exposed to great cold, the pots and glasses must be removed from the window farther back into the room, during the night, to save them from the frost.

SUCH as have the advantage of stoves for exotics, pine-apples, &c. need only carry their pots and glasses thither; plunging the former into the bark, and setting the latter upon it. They will then have fine flowers from December till the end of March without much trouble.

THOSE who have no stoves, and would have flowers as early as possible, must have proper frames made for bringing forward the flowers, and covered with

with glass. These beds are to be made like melon beds, and filled with fresh bark, or with horse-dung to make them hotter. The glasses may be three feet by two, and about three feet from the ground. A rampart a foot thick must then be raised about the bed to prevent the cold from penetrating the dung. At the bottom of the bed let a layer of fresh horse-dung be laid, not trodden down, because that would hinder it from growing hot. Above this spread a layer of bark, quite fresh, and six inches thick; but when the dung begins to heat, add more bark till it be a foot thick; taking care to keep the glasses close, and to throw mats over them in the night to keep out the frost. After a week or two the pots are to be put into the bark, and the jars upon it; and then they will produce flowers as early and fine as those that are set in stoves for pines and exotics,

BUT those that do not care to take so much trouble may make use of a bed of the same proportion, only let it be raised above the ground, and exposed to the sun; and instead of dung, make it up of earth or bark, to plunge the pots in, or set the jars upon. To heat this frame, a kettle or a pot full of water is to be made use of, which is to be kept warm with a little fire, that a moderate degree of heat may be conveyed to it by the exhaled vapour, which is very like a summer dew: But special care must be taken that the water be not too hot, lest the burning vapour tinge and dry the points of the leaves, and so prevent the bulbs from springing.

THE heating of the water in the glasses should also be carefully avoided; because it robs it of its
salts

salts, and makes it unfit for vegetation; and also infects the bulbs, rots the fibres, and kills the plant. Some florists, to bring their flowers forward, have provided cases to set their pots and glasses in, and made a fire under them; but they have always been disappointed of their expectation. We would therefore advise nobody to make use of this method.

IT will be easy to have flowers all the winter, by pursuing the directions here laid down. But to make a shew the flowers should be disposed in a pyramidal form, upon semicircular shelves, rising one above another, and gradually diminishing. This arrangement forms a grand mountain of flowers, which will strike the eye most agreeably.

HYACINTHS are the finest of all the winter flowers; the single flowers are the most early, and bear large trusses of different colours, which form a very agreeable variety; therefore we would advise the curious to have them of all sorts. The double are very beautiful, and somewhat later. The colour of the red becomes deeper in pots or jars, than when planted in the open ground, as we have found by our own experience.

THE *Spring Tulips* are the most beautiful next to the Hyacinths, on account of the diversity of their colours. The sort, called, *Duke of Tol*, or *Duke Van Tol*, is so early that you may have it in December. It is of a scarlet colour, edged with yellow.

THE *Polyanthus Narcissus* is also very pretty. Many sorts are yellow and white, which make a charming appearance.

THE

THE *Jonquille* has so sweet a scent, so fine a shape, and so soft a colour, that it is one of the most agreeable winter flowers; but the *largest* bulbs are to be picked out for this purpose, because the others will produce no flowers.

THE three sorts of *Narcissus*, and the single *Jonquilles*, are also worthy of a place among the flowers that blow in winter. The variety of their colours diversify the prospect, and render it more agreeable.

THE *Iris Persica* and *Dens canis* are very fine. The first, besides a mixture of various colours, is decorated with a black velvet; the leaves of the latter are marbled, and the flowers resemble those of the Cyclamen. The purple and white are the best and most valued.

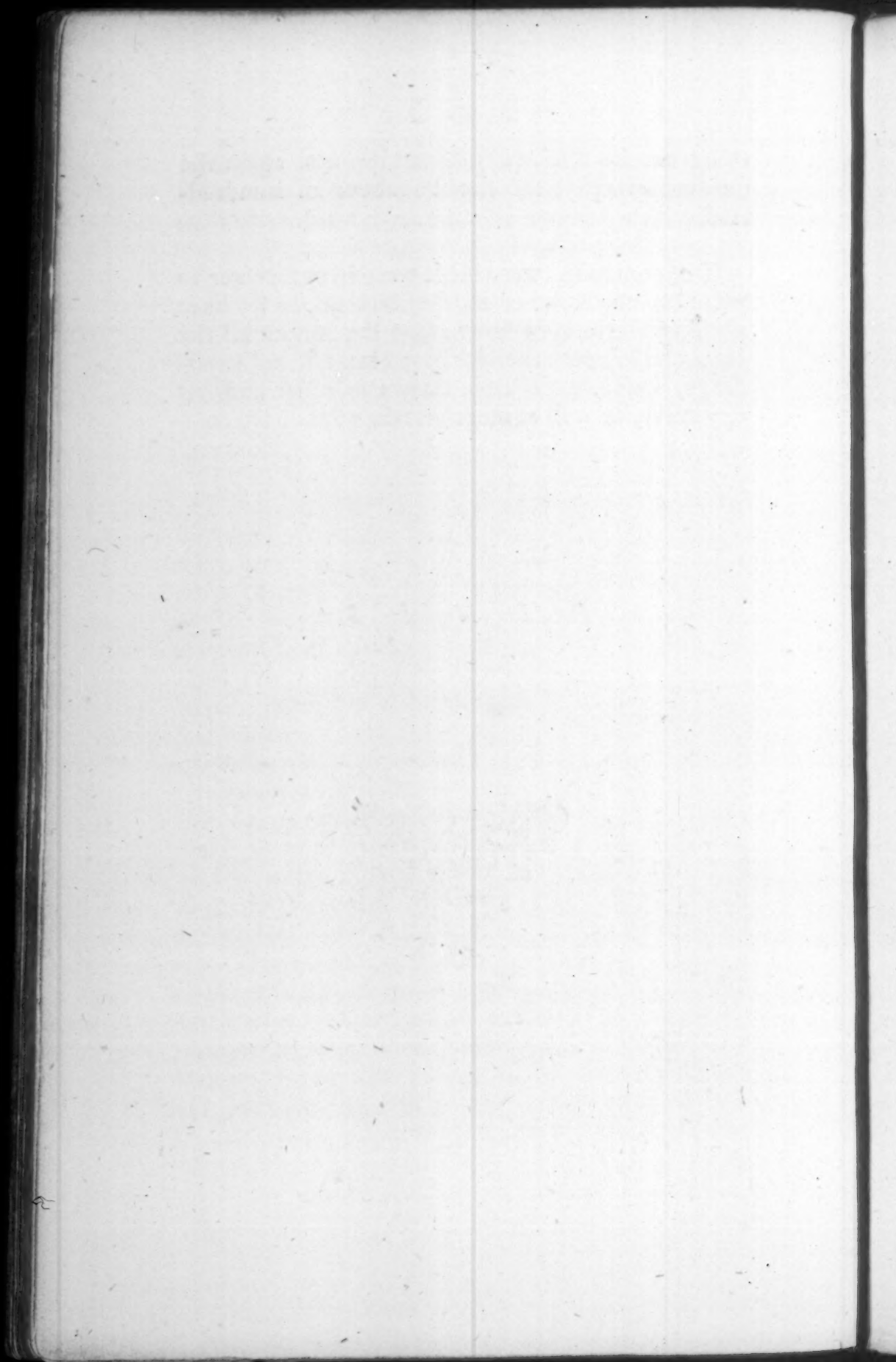
WE must also observe, that to enjoy the pleasure of this winter floral scene, the largest bulbs are to be chosen, otherwise it will be impossible to compass it: And also that the bulbs made use of will not be lost, but be in full vigour the next year; provided they be taken put of the glasses or pots as soon as the flowers are gone off, and then planted in the common beds two inches deep, having first cut off the tops and fibrous roots. There they are to stand till they be taken up along with the rest, and in the mean time they will multiply by offsets, and thus prove a nursery to supply your pots and glasses another year. As for the old ones, they will serve no more for this purpose, and the offsets being yet too small for the first year, recourse must be had to new bulbs. All this gives some trouble, but nothing

thing can be attained without it; and again the pleasure overpays the florist's labour an hundred-fold.

To conclude, we wish it were in our power to point out any easier or cheaper method, as we have nothing else in view but to save the curious all the pains and expence that we have been obliged to undergo, before experience taught us easier and less expensive, as well as more certain ways.

F I N I S.







T H E

MONTHLY CATALOGUE,

(p. 71) TRANSLATED.

THIS was thought proper to be added for the benefit of the English reader: And as Mr *Miller*, in the last edition of his dictionary, has adopted the system of *Linnaeus*, in preference to that of *Tournefort*, which he followed in the others, and thereby introduced many alterations in the names of plants; these new names are added here, with references to the seventh edition; those of the authors, in the Latin catalogue, being made to the former editions.

Flowers blowing in *February*.

Sweet-scented Cyclamen of Aleppo, with a marbled leaf, and white flower.

The same, the bottom of the flower purple.

The same, with a rose-coloured bottom.

Winter Cyclamen, with a red flower.

Bulbous Leucojum, with a double white flower.
Bulbous Violet, or Snow-drop. This is the *Galanthus* of *Miller* in the last edition of his dictionary.

In

In March.

Narcissus campernellus, with a yellow flower.

Dwarf Narcissus, with a small yellow flower.

The same, with a double pale-yellow flower.

Trumpet marine Narcissus.

Persian Iris.

Borage-leaved Hyacinth.

Star-hyacinth, with a white flower.

The same, with a blue flower.

The same, with a red flower.

Vernal, or spring Crocus.

Dog's Tooth.

Don folio, with a white flower.

In April.

Hyacinths.

Early Tulips.

Ranunculuses.

Anemones.

Polyanthus Narcissuses.

St James's, or single flowering scarlet Narcissus.

Primrose peerless. 4. *Narcissus* of *Miller's* last edition.

Orange phoenix Narcissus.

Van Sion Narcissus, with a flower entirely yellow.

Most

Most sweet-scented Jonquilles, with a yellow single flower.

Jonquilles, with a large single flower.

Jonquilles, with a lesser single flower. 9. *Narcissus* of *Miller*, last edition.

Neapolitan Iris, three sorts, with white, blue, and variegated flowers.

Crown Imperial.

Vernal red Lily.

Muscari, or musk-scented Hyacinth,

Grape-hyacinth, with a flesh-coloured flower.

Fritillary; Pewet's eggs.

Sanicle, with a double white flower.

In *May*.

Tulips, double, &c.

Ranunculuses.

The third *Narcissus* of *Matthiolus*. 2. *Pancratium*, or Sea-daffodil. *Miller*.

Garret's lesser *Narcissus*.

Double-flowered sweet Jonquilles.

Tuberoſe Iris, or *Hermodactylus*, with quadrangular leaves.

Dutch Hyacinth, English Hyacinth, or Hare-bells.

Coral

Coral Hyacinth, with purple flowers.
Star of Bethlehem.

In June.

Ranunculuses, &c.

Double-flowered white Narcissus; Daffodil.

Spanish bulbous Iris. 2. *Xiphion*. *M*.

The same, with a double flower.

Persian Iris, with a very large flower inclining
from white to black. 5. *Iris*. *M*. *Chalcedonian*
Iris.

Broad-leaved Iris. German Flower-de-luce. 2.
Iris. *M*.

Asphodel-rooted Iris, with crimson flowers. 3.
Hemerocallis, or Asphodel Lily. *M*.

The same, with yellow flowers. 1. *Hemerocal-*
lis. *M*.

Mountain bastard Lily; or lesser Lily-asphodel,
with a large white flower. 4. *Hemerocallis*. *M*.
or *Savoy Spiderwort*.

Hyacinth, with longish flowers divided into six
segments.

Feathered Hyacinth, with blue flowers.

African Star-hyacinth, with purple flowers.

Great Moly, with white flowers.

The

The same, with purple flowers.

Lesser Moly, with yellow flowers.

Pæony.

Persian Tulip. with a yellow and red flower.

In *July*.

St James's, or single flowering scarlet Narcissus.

English bulbous Iris. 4. *Xiphium*. *M.*

Narrow-leaved Iris, with a blue flower; a variegated flower; and the most beautiful variegated flower.

Florentine Iris, with a large white flower.

Martagon, curled Lily, or Fool's-cap.

White Lily.

The same, with a large double flower.

The same, with stained leaves.

The same, with variegated leaves.

Lily, with spotted variegated flowers.

Great red, or orange Lily. *M.* 3.

Gladiolus, or Corn-flag.

In *August*.

Summer Cyclamen, with a red flower and Anemone root.

Sweet Summer Cyclamen, with a round root.

Tuberoſe, with a white flower.

The same, with double white flowers.

The

The same, with a white flower and variegated leaf.

In *September*.

Belladonna Narcissus, with a large flower. 4.
Amaryllis. M.

The same, with a middling flower.

The same, with a lesser flower.

Narcissus of Japan, with a shining red flower.
Guernsey Lily. 4. *Amaryllis. M.*

Indian Narcissus, with a Lily flower.

The same, with a whitish flower, purple on the outside.

In *October*.

Autumnal Cyclamen, with white flowers.

The same, with white flowers and spear-shaped leaves.

The same, with flesh-coloured flowers and Ivy leaves.

The same, with flesh-coloured flowers and spear-shaped leaves.

The same, with a rose-coloured flower.

Au-

Autumnal Colchicum of Cologne, with a variegated flower. 3. *M.*

The same, with a yellow flower, or Crocus-narcissus.

The same, sundry sorts.

Autumnal Crocus, with a large blue flower;
Saffron.

Mountain autumnal Crocus.

Mountain Pyrenean Crocus, with a blue flower.



Annual, 10-12 in. tall, with a single
flower, yellow.

This plant, with a yellow flower, or orange-red.

The same, double form.

Annual, 10-12 in. tall, with a single, blue flower.

Annual, 10-12 in. tall, with a single, blue flower.

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